

ASSASSIN AND ASSASSIN'S ASSASSIN

DESTINY IN DALLAS

On-the-Scene Story in Pictures

Compiled by

R. B. DENSON

Private Investigator

Jack Ruby Defense Team,

Dec. 10, 1963 — Mar. 15, 1964

(Not a Defense Document)

*Destiny: What will happen in spite of all efforts to change or prevent it. — Thorndike-Barnhart Dictionary



ENTANGLED DESTINY

NOVEMBER 22, 1963! A day of destiny in Dallas!

The weather forecast — "Considerable cloudiness and turning cooler . . . scattered thunderstorms . . ."

But as Air Force One, the Presidential jet, landed at Love Field, a brisk breeze scattered the dark clouds that had hovered over the city like impending doom. Dallas had been cool toward the President, but the sudden warmth of the Texas sun seemed to be mirrored in the warmth of the welcome, as cheering crowds thronged Love Field, pressed into the walkways along the motorcade route, and filled Market Hall to honor him at luncheon.

If only the sun had not melted away the rain and dull cold . . . !

Because it did, the bulletproof bubble top was removed, and President John Fitzgerald Kennedy rode bareheaded through the streets of Dallas in an open limousine, exposed to sniper's bullets like fish in a barrel.

Smiling, waving, greeting eager throngs that lined the motorcade route, the President rode toward his date with destiny!



President and Mrs. Kennedy at Love Field,

DMN-JB

WARM WELCOME

Mrs. Kennedy, gracious as always, displays red roses presented by Dallas welcoming committee. An hour later, those roses lay wilting, forgotten, among pools of blood in the floor of the President's limousine!

Friendly, vibrant, the President reaches across an airport runway fence to clasp hands with smiling Dallasites. Luncheon could wait! Here were friends to greet!



11:37. Air Force One touched down at Love Field, in bright sun.

11:50. The Motorcade rolled out of Love Field, down Mockingbird Lane to Lemmon Ave., and on into Dallas. In the President's limousine, Governor and Mrs. John Connally rode with the Kennedys, as the President began his last ride — eleven miles through the heart of Dallas.



THE LAST BLOCK

DMN-JB

ONE MORE BLOCK. The motorcade was already picking up speed to whisk the President to crowded Market Hall, off Stemmons Freeway, where lunch was waiting. Along Houston Street (carefully supervised by Dallas police), were gathered eager lunch-time crowds, waiting for a glimpse of their President.

Background: Dallas County Court buildings. Right: Old red stone courthouse resembles Sleeping Beauty Castle. Left: Dallas County Criminal Court, where Jack Ruby was later tried for his life.

A half block nearer: Elm Street, and the turn into the Triple Underpass. Around that corner, six stories above the heads of security guards — Dallas Police, F.B.I., Secret Service — silent, unsuspected, lurked DESTINY!

Proceeding along this peaceful, sun-drenched street, Mrs. Connally turned to address the President: "You can't say Dallas wasn't friendly to you!"

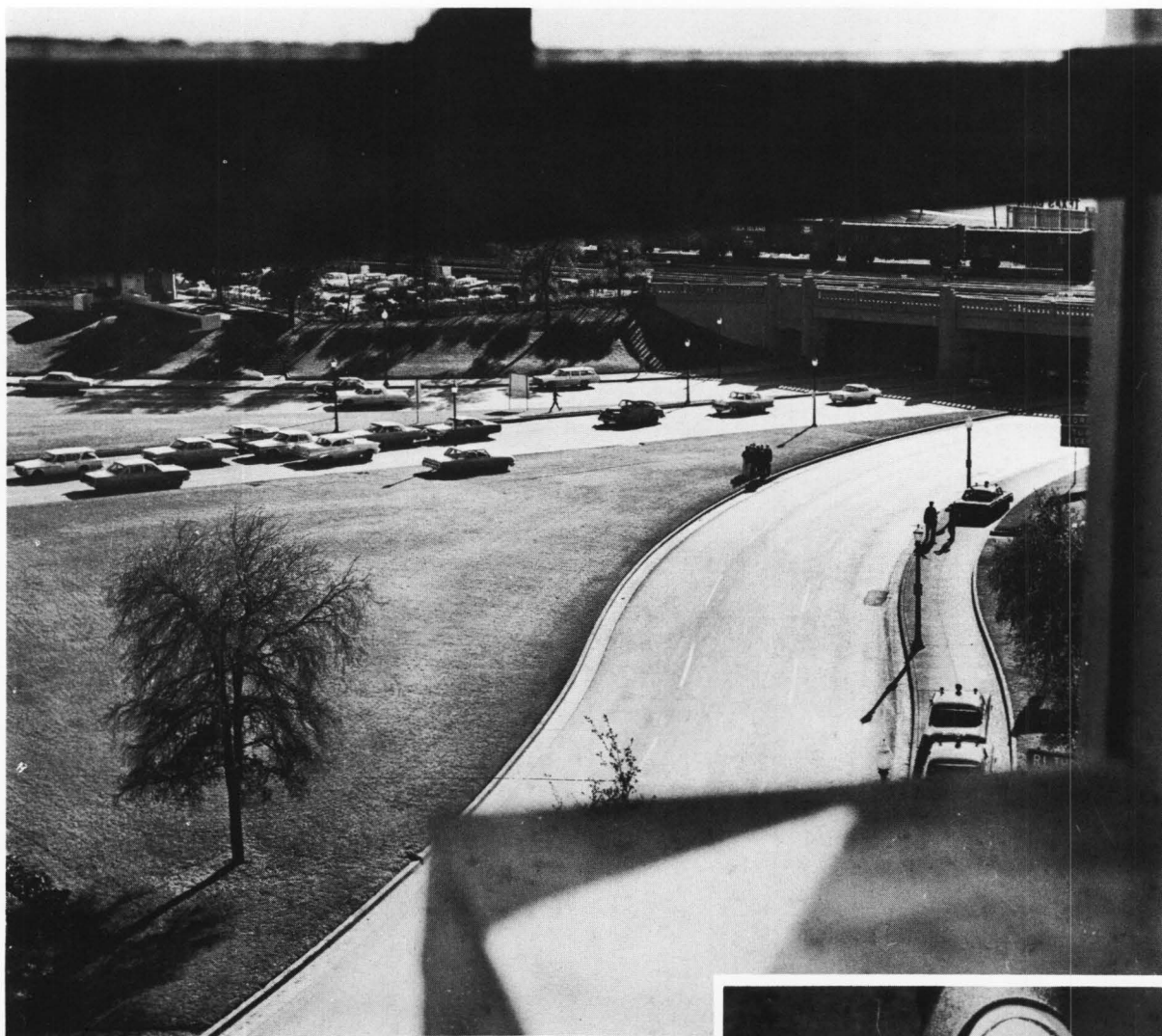


DMN-JB

TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY stands aloof, like a weary sentinel guarding the Triple Underpass — staring with blank eyes into the chasm where Elm and Main Streets flow out of the city and onto the freeways.

Crowds heard a sound like a motor backfiring — another — and another, and saw the President's limousine speed away. Not until later would they know that they had witnessed the assassination of the President!

(Arrow indicates window from which the fatal shots were fired.)

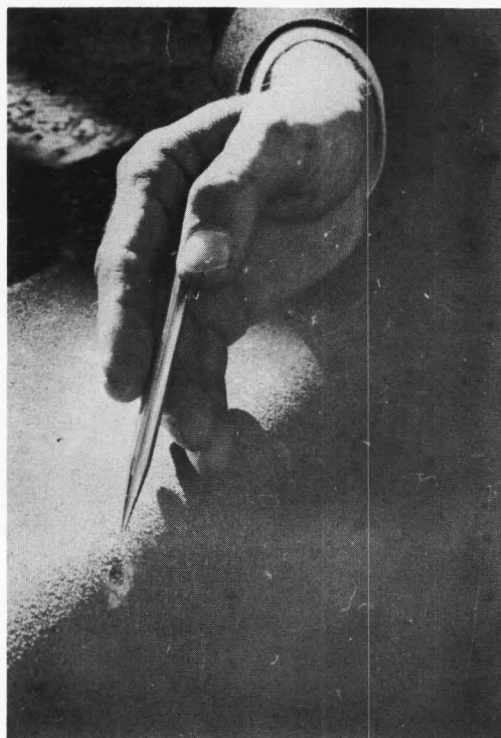


DMN-JB

LOOKING DOWN from an open sixth-floor window in a dead-storage area of the School Book Depository, the assassin lay in wait for his prey, like a hunter on a hill, watching for the President's limousine to come into range.

At this point, Elm Street is one-way outbound, Main Street is two-way, and Commerce Street is one-way inbound through the Triple Underpass. Note the group of men near the center of the picture, at the Elm Street Curb. These men are officers, seeking the mark of a bullet thought to have struck the curb near this point.

This photo, by Dallas News Staff Photographer Jack Beers, was the first made from the assassination window. Asked how long after the assassination the picture was made, Mr. Beers replied, "Time just went haywire." Shadows indicate a time very near that of picture on page 2. In the foreground can be seen the box used by the assassin to steady his aim.



Right: An officer points to indentation on curb, thought to have been made by a bullet which went astray.

DMN-TD

THREE SHOTS!

The President mortally wounded.
Texas Governor John Connally near death.
A nation bereaved.

A city shocked and staggered!
Within minutes, alert Dallas police had
closed off the area and made a search
of the building. One employee was
missing — Lee Harvey Oswald!

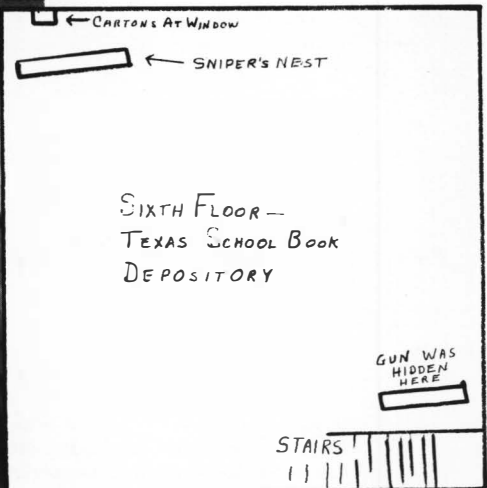
TO PROTECT HIS LAIR, the
assassin built a wall of school
book cartons. Three cartons
stacked against the window sill
steadied his deadly aim. Here,
in the fall sunshine, the killer
lurked.



DMN-JB



There was no passenger elevator to the sixth floor. Near the stairs, diagonally across the floor from the assassination window, hastily concealed between cartons labeled "Fun With Our Friends" and "Building for Tomorrow," police found the murder weapon!



DMN-JB

DALLAS POLICE LIEUTENANT CARL DAY carries out the 6.5 Mm. Carcano Italian military carbine, identified as the assassination weapon. Finger prints, ballistics, serial number identify the gun as the property of Lee Harvey Oswald, purchased by him under the name of A. Hidell — from a mail order concern in Chicago for \$12.78.



DMN-JB

On the morning of November 22, Oswald rode to work with a neighbor, and carried a long package wrapped in brown paper. He said it was "window blinds." To preserve finger prints, the wrapper, also found in the depository building, is carried out on a stick.



DMN-JB

LEE HARVEY OSWALD . . . A. Hidel . . . O. H. Lee . . . Names known to have been used by the suspected assassin of President John F. Kennedy.

As Lee Harvey Oswald, he was born in New Orleans in 1939, attended school, served in the U. S. Marine Corps, defected to Russia and back again, married a Russian wife, and fathered two children . . . and was buried on November 25, 1963.

As A. Hidel, he rented a box in the Dallas Terminal Annex Post Office, and purchased a foreign military carbine from a Chicago mail order concern.

As O. H. Lee, he moved into a small room at 1026 N. Beckley, in the middle of the night of October 14, 1963. Landlords and housekeeper report that this strange young man kept to himself, never joined in fun with 16 other roomers, retired early, received no mail . . . but made frequent telephone calls to an Irving number, speaking a foreign language.

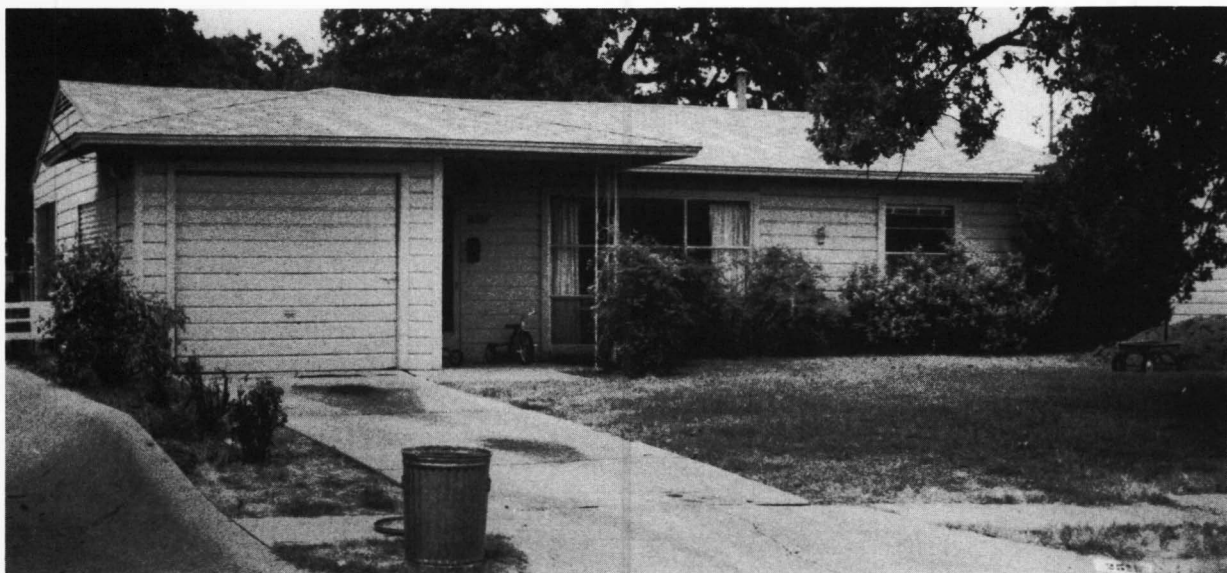
He did not spend weekends at the rooming house.

After the assassination, a housekeeper reports, he dashed in, picked up a short tan coat, and dashed out, speaking to no one.

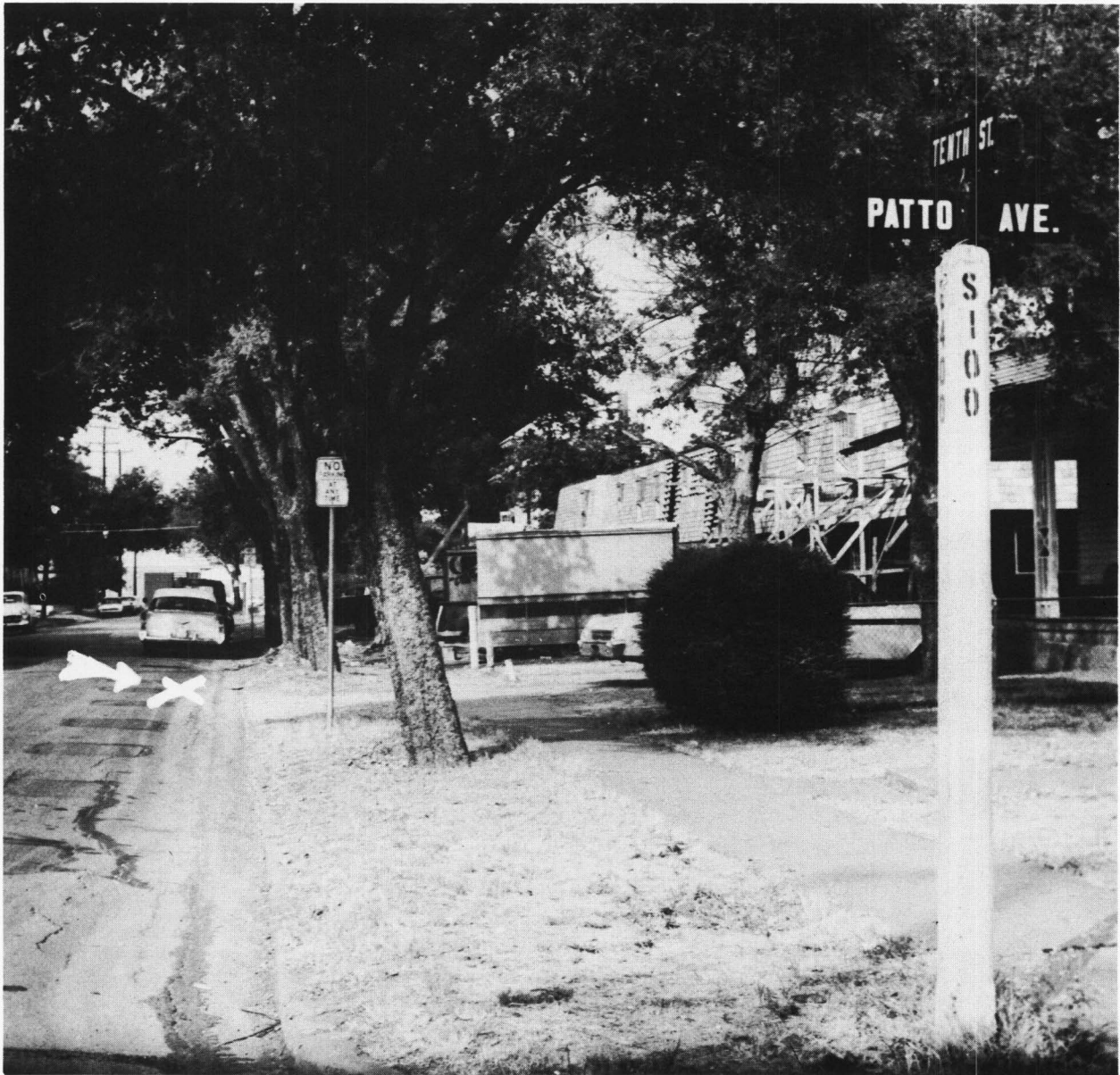


DS

Lee Oswald spent Thursday night, November 21, with his Russian-born wife, Marina, and their two small children at the home of Mrs. Ruth Paine in suburban Irving. Mrs. Paine, a pacifist Quaker and Russian language teacher, had taken the Oswald family into her home. A blanket wrapped bundle stored in her garage contained a gun, apparently unknown to Mrs. Paine. Friday morning, riding with a neighbor, Oswald left the Paine home carrying a long package, wrapped in brown paper. His destination, the Texas School Book Depository, where his employment that day would be assisting in the repair of a floor, six stories up.



J8



DS

DESTINY ON A QUIET STREET

At 11:30 A.M., Nov. 22, 1963, Dallas Police Officer J. D. Tippitt went home for a hasty lunch. Moments after his return to duty the radio in his patrol car crackled an alert. There was a description . . .

At 1:15 P.M., Officer Tippit was patrolling a quiet street in Oak Cliff. There, walking briskly toward him, appeared a man who answered the description. Tippit hailed him, and stepped out of the patrol car. Once again, three shots rang out. Again, the assassin's aim was deadly. Forty-one minutes had passed since the assassination shots, and destiny had struck again. Officer J. D. Tippit lay dead in the street at Tenth and Patton.

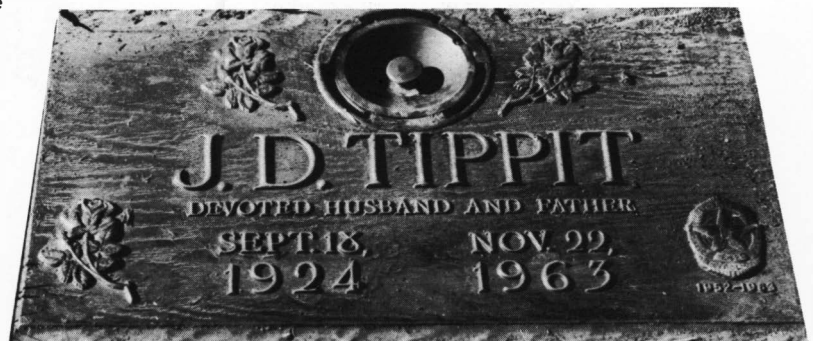
The assassin fled through a vacant lot.



DMN-JF

NOW Marie Tippit, Allen, Brenda Kay, and Curtis, like Jacqueline Kennedy and her children, were suddenly alone. From all over the world came letters, telegrams and gifts. But nothing can fill the void left by their loss.

IN LAUREL LAND CEMETERY on a windswept hill in South Dallas in a plot set aside for the honored dead, a simple memorial marks the spot where lies a devoted public servant and beloved husband and father.



THE END OF THE TRAIL

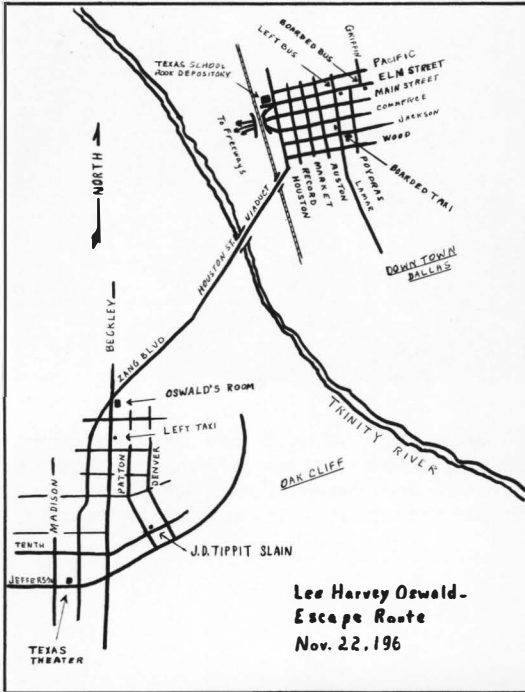
AS THE KILLER FLED, a passerby spoke into the police phone in Tippit's car:

"A policeman has been shot.
He's lying out here in the street.
I think he's dead."

Police converged upon the area, and forty-five minutes later had captured Lee Harvey Oswald in the Texas theater, 231 West Jefferson.

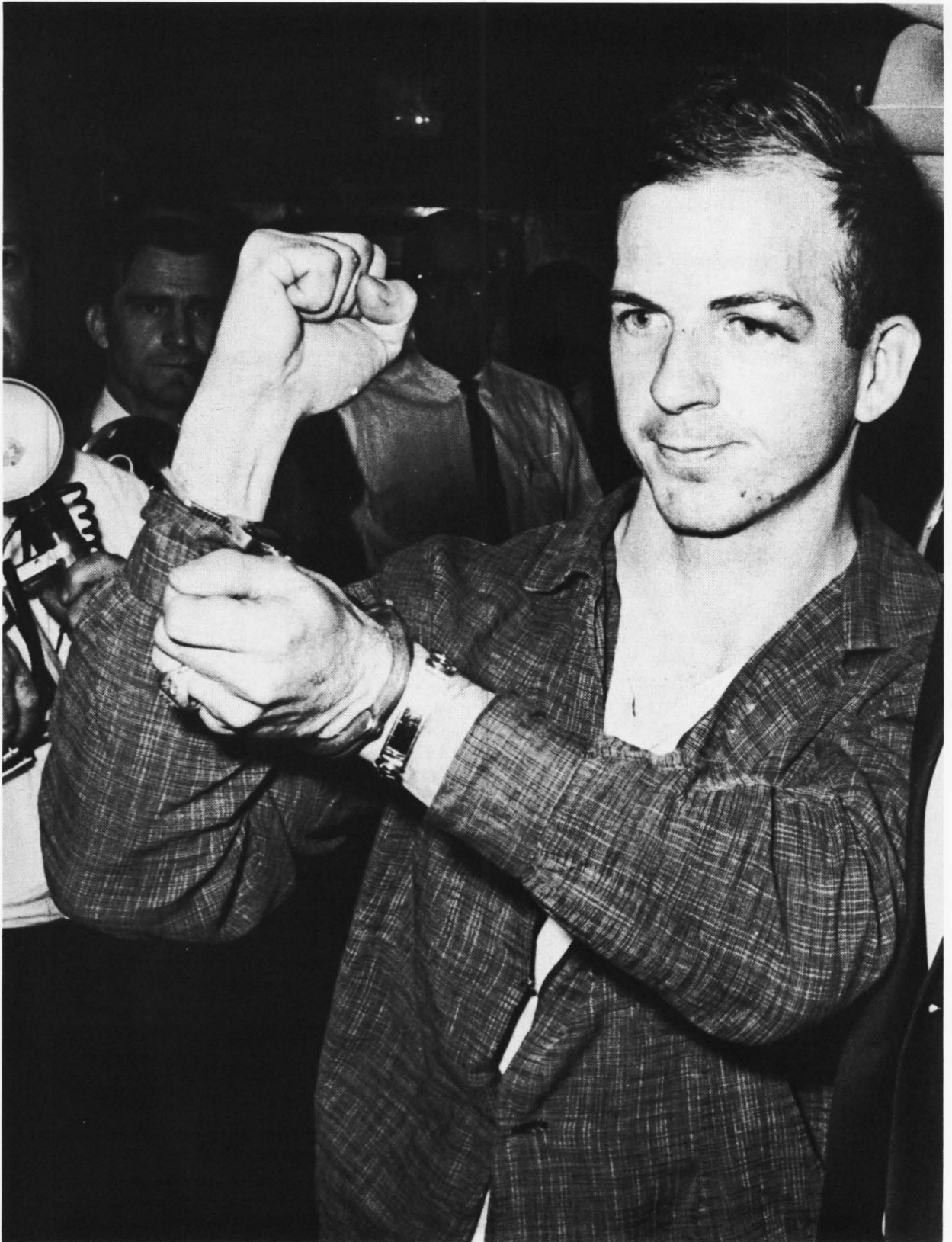
While "War Is Hell" played on the screen, police officers struggled to disarm the slayer. Shouting, "I protest this police brutality,"

Oswald was loaded into an unmarked police car and rushed to headquarters.



DMN-JE

90 MINUTES after the first shot, the alleged assassin was in custody!



DMN-BW

DEFYING DESTINY

Fist raised in Communist salute, Oswald denies any part in either killing, denounces police brutality, and demands representation by a New York attorney.

Johnston
No. F-154
THE STATE OF TEXAS
vs.
Lee Harvey Oswald

AFFIDAVIT
GENERAL
MURDER
Henry Wade
District Attorney, Dallas County, Texas

Defendant's Address
City Jail

Defendant's Attorney
*1135 Ave 17-28-68 And
Henry Wade
District Attorney, Dallas County, Texas
No Bond - Capital Offense*

*Grand Jury 11-23-63
Advised and Reminded the Sheriff
of Dallas County, Texas
Bond Capital Offense*

Copy to Dist. Office 11/27/63
No. F-155
THE STATE OF TEXAS
vs.
LEE HARVEY OSWALD

AFFIDAVIT
GENERAL
MURDER TO MURDER
HENRY WADE
Dist. Attorney, Dallas County, Texas

Defendant's Address
City Jail

Defendant's Attorney
1135 Dallas Ave. Dept.

(Am 24 10-11-63)

Form 141- AFFIDAVIT-General.

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS.

PERSONALLY APPEARED before me the undersigned authority this affiant, who after being by me duly sworn, deposes and says your Affiant has good reason to believe and does believe that one

Lee Harvey Oswald

hereinafter styled Defendant, heretofore on or about the *22nd* day of *November* A. D. 19*63* in the County of Dallas and State of Texas, did unlawfully *then and there* voluntarily and with Malice aforethought kill John F. Kennedy by shooting him with a gun

ALTHOUGH DALLAS POLICE never wavered from their accusation of Oswald as the President's assassin, they proceeded with caution in their actions against him. The first formal charge was the murder of J. D. Tippitt (No. F-153), filed at 7:05 p.m., Nov. 22. At 11:26, an affidavit was filed charging him with the murder of John F. Kennedy (No. F-154). The following day, he was charged with assault to murder Texas Governor John B. Connally.

Against the peace and dignity of the State.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the

22nd day of *November* A. D. 19*63*

Henry Wade
District Attorney of
Dallas County, Texas.

J. W. Fay
Affiant.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING COPY OF COMPLAINT NUMBER *F-154* THE STATE OF TEXAS vs. *LEE HARVEY OSWALD*, IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL THIS *18th* DAY OF *March* 1964.

David L. Turnbow
DAVID L. TURNBOW
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PREC. 2
DALLAS COUNTY, DALLAS, TEXAS

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME A NOTARY PUBLIC THIS *18th* DAY OF *March* 1964.

Hattie Crane
HATTIE CRANE
NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR DALLAS COUNTY

Form 141- AFFIDAVIT-General.

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS.

PERSONALLY APPEARED before me the undersigned authority this affiant, who after being by me duly sworn, deposes and says your Affiant has good reason to believe and does believe that one

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

hereinafter styled Defendant, heretofore on or about the *22nd* day of *November*, A. D. 19*63* in the County of Dallas and State of Texas, did unlawfully *then and there* *IN AND UPON JOHN B. CONNALLY WITH MALICE AFORETHOUGHT did MAKE AN ASSAULT,* WITH THE INTENT *then and there* *TO MURDER THE SFD* *JOHN B. CONNALLY* *gun*

F-153

Form 141- AFFIDAVIT-General.

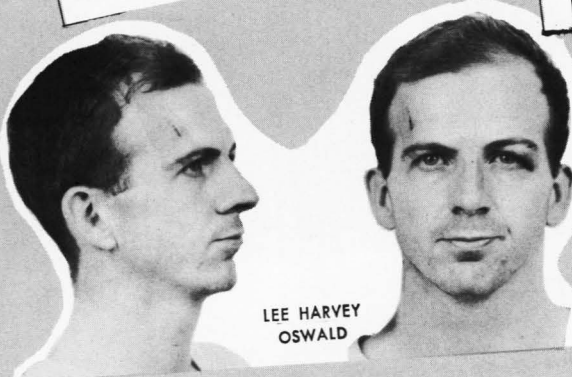
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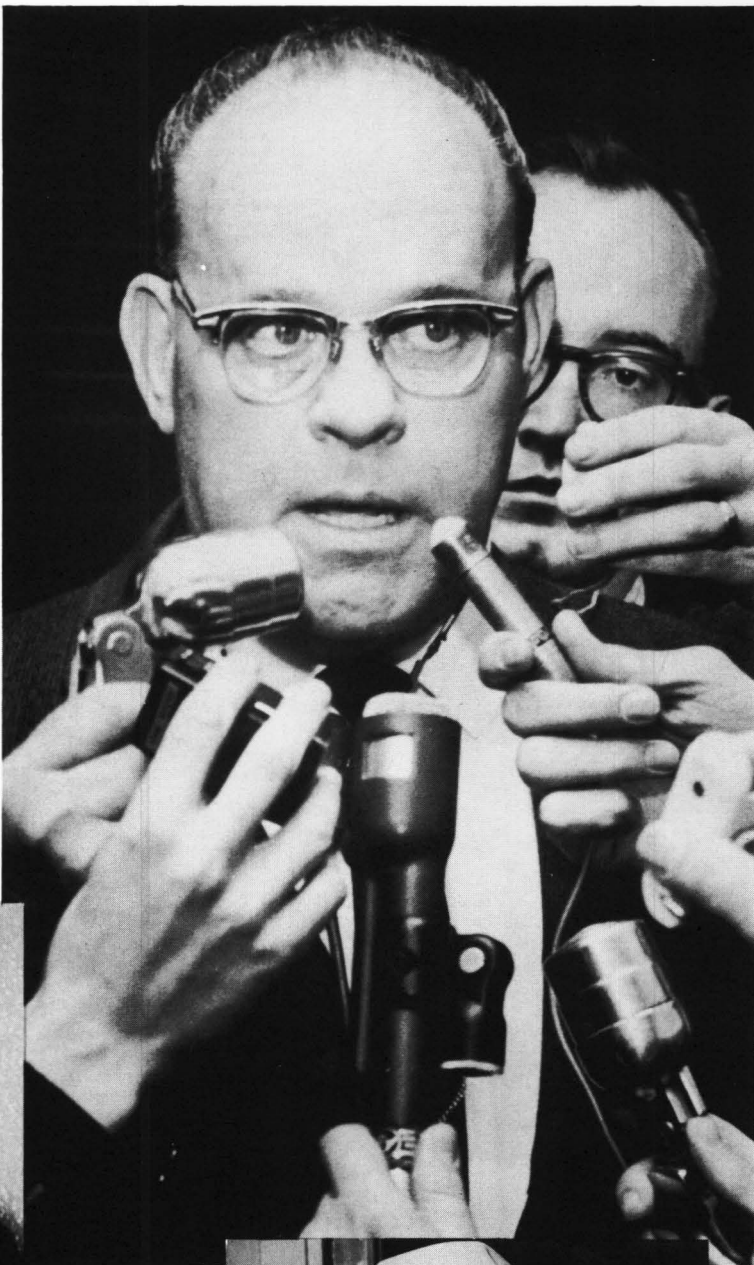
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F-155



PUBLIC RELATIONS demanded frequent progress reports, and Police Chief Jesse Curry gave them. Before two hours had passed, 92% of Americans had heard of President Kennedy's assassination. (National Opinion Research Center, Chicago.) Dallas Police, shocked like every other American, grieved for the loss of one of their own men, saddened by their failure to prevent these murders, became a formidable unit in their efficient pursuit of the suspect. Chief Curry aged visibly during Friday night and Saturday. Yet, mingled with grief and weariness was pride in his men as he gave his final report late Saturday night. The Chief drank a bitter cup — but Sunday he drained it to the dregs.

Oswald complained of "police brutality," but Officer M. N. McDonald, who disarmed and captured the slayer inside the Texas Theater, knew that his own life was at stake. Had not Oswald's gun misfired McDonald too might have died. Even so, he suffered a cut on his face and other bruises before subduing the fugitive.



DMN-TD



JB

VETERAN POLICE CAPTAIN WILL FRITZ, Dallas Homicide Bureau, is a master of interrogation. He found Oswald totally uncooperative.



DMN-JB



DMN-JB

FAMILY VISIT OSWALD AT CITY JAIL

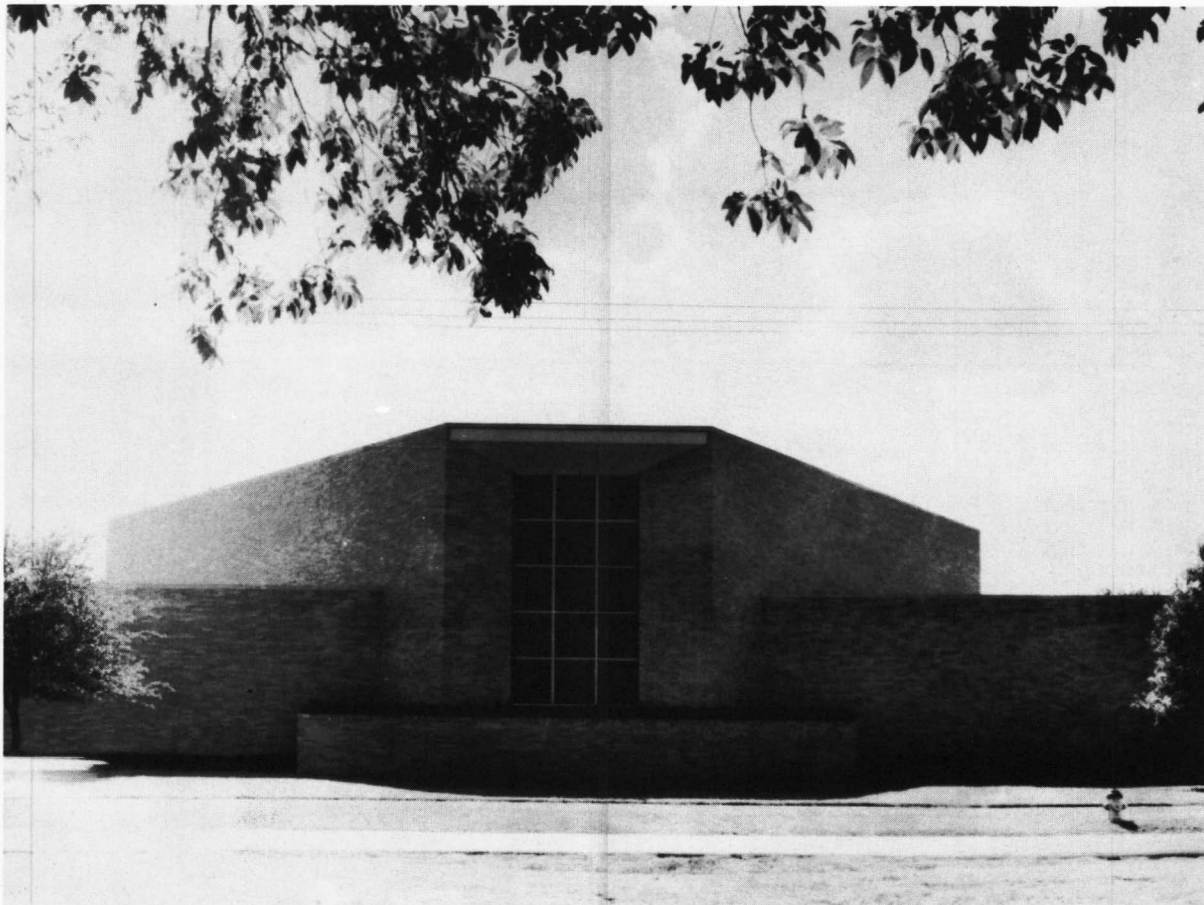
Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, mother of the suspect, who arrived from Fort Worth with reporters, declares, "They have always turned their backs on me! They will now! Marina Oswald, the prisoner's Russian born wife, was brought to headquarters by police officers, accompanied her two small daughters.

DALLAS MOURNS AS DESTINY MOVES

THE NATION AND THE WORLD MOURNED. But nowhere was mourning so poignant as in Dallas. Rich and poor, liberal and conservative, Democrat and Republican, Catholic, Protestant, Jew and unbeliever mourned as for a father.

Churches throughout the city assembled solemnly on Sunday morning. Ministers admonished their congregations to put away hatred, to examine their hearts.

As District Attorney Henry Wade left the service of his church, the First Community Church at 6250 St. Moritz, he was met on the steps by the news that destiny had struck again!



SHEARETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

DS

MEMORIAL SERVICES in the Synagogue were conducted on Friday evening. Among the mourners at the Congregation Sheareth Israel, 9401 Douglas, was Dallas night club proprietor Jack Ruby. He had closed his clubs for the weekend, declaring that people ought not to indulge in music, fun, and dancing at such a time. His sister, Mrs. Eva Grant, reported that Jack was more grief stricken than at the death of their own father.

Upon leaving the Synagogue, Ruby visited the police station, mingled in the milling throng of reporters and police there, offered them sandwiches — saw Oswald, apparently for the first time.

There was nothing unique in Ruby's being distraught that night. The city — the nation — the world was distraught!

Saturday, like a leaf in a whirlwind, Ruby wandered around town through the day and most of the night. After midnight, he visited the Dallas News, made pictures of a sign which proclaimed, "Impeach Earl Warren," revisited the assassination site . . .

Near daybreak, he returned to his apartment and went to bed.

At 10:30 in the morning, he received a telephone call which proved to be the pivot of destiny. Weary and heartsick, Ruby might have remained in his room. But because of that call, he drove to Western Union.

There, at 11:17, he wired \$25.00 to Karen Lynn Bennett in Fort Worth. Leaving Sheba, his favorite dog in the car, Ruby strolled over to City Hall to see what the crowd was all about.

MAIN STREET, HARWOOD TO PEARL EXPRESSWAY. At City Hall, the motorcade had turned onto Main Street for the President's final ride through Dallas. On Sunday morning, Nov. 24, Jack Ruby parked his car in a parking lot just beyond the Western Union Building; sent a Telegraph Money Order between 11:17 and 11:18 A.M., then walked to City Hall (see arrows). A reconstruction of the time element would indicate that Ruby entered the basement at approximately the moment that Oswald left the elevator. He shouldered his way through the crowd of newsmen and, at 11:21, stood face to face with the smug, smirking accused assassin. By 11:22, Oswald should have been out of the basement and on his way to County Jail.





'THE SHOT HEARD AROUND THE WORLD'



Copyright, Dallas Morning News.
Staff Photo by Jack Beers. Used by permission.

"LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!" For nearly forty-eight hours, Dallas Police had been relentlessly "on camera!" Certain that police would prefer to move Oswald secretly from City to County Jail, news personnel maintained a death watch at City Hall through the night.

BLACK WEEKEND in Dallas was a relentless drama, played live before the world, without a script. Radio and television programs throughout the nation had been preempted, and attention focused on Dallas.

At 11:21 A.M., the curtain rose on a new scene.

In the basement of City Hall, the elevator door opened, and accused presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, handcuffed between two police officers, stepped forth into a blaze of klieg lights, to face his date with destiny.

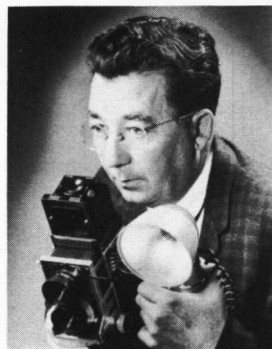
Cameras rolled. The nation watched.

Through the Main Street entrance, down the ramp, walked a stocky man in a brown suit and hat. Officers and newsmen were busy. No one seemed to see him.

"I had my camera up to my left eye," says Dallas Morning News Photographer Jack Beers. "First, I heard him. Then I caught a glimpse of movement with my right eye, before I saw him through the lense. I didn't know who it was, nor what was about to happen. But I knew something was happening. . . . I didn't know what I had until the film was developed." What he had was the picture on the opposite page!

Under the hot glare of TV lights, Jack Ruby played his walk-on part in destiny's drama. He lunged forward, drawing his Colt Cobra revolver from his pocket as he came. One shot rang out. Oswald crumpled. Order became pandemonium. An avalanche of police bore Ruby to the floor. In moments, the elevator moved upward, bearing Jack Ruby, assassin's assassin to the jail so recently occupied by his victim, the accused assassin of President Kennedy. There was no question here! Never before in history had a murder been committed before so many witnesses.

All arrogance gone at last, Lee Harvey Oswald was lifted to a stretcher to be whisked away in an ambulance rather than in the armoured car that stood waiting.



JACK BEERS



RACE WITH DESTINY



DOWN MAIN STREET, around the corner onto Houston, turning at Elm Street, through the Triple Underpass, speeding along Stemmons Freeway . . . past Market Hall where President Kennedy's luncheon date had been set aside for his date with destiny . . . raced the ambulance carrying the accused assassin to Parkland Hospital.

DS

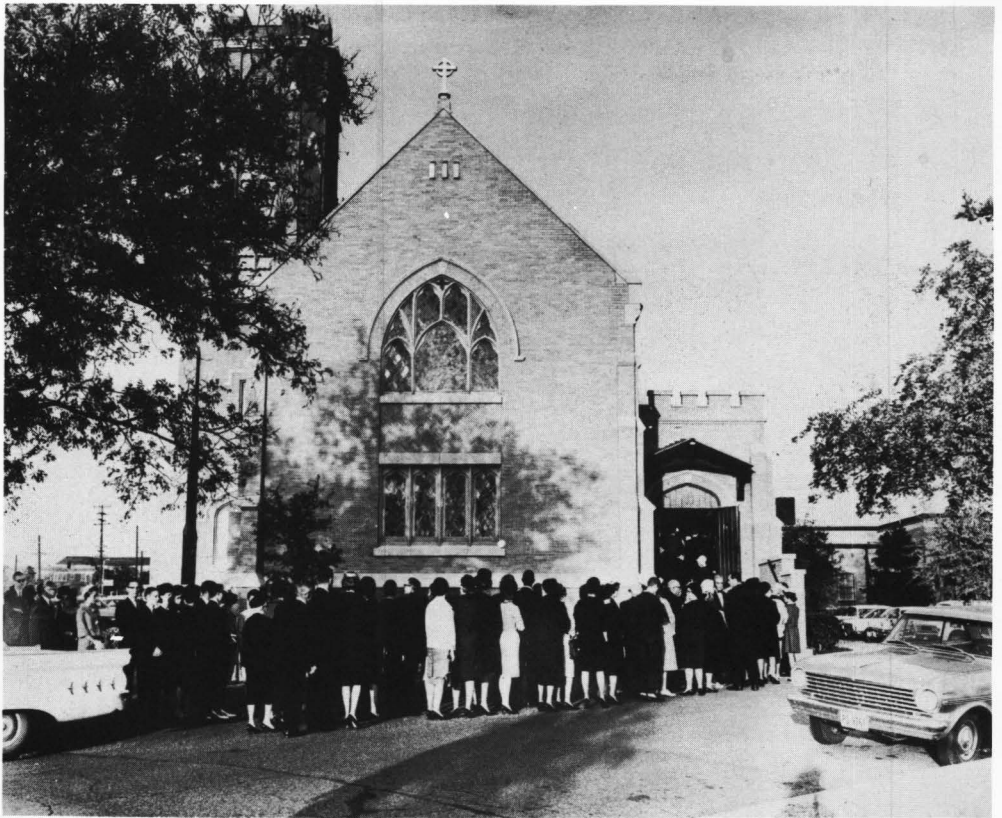
There, in an emergency room a few feet from the spot where the President had been declared dead barely forty-eight hours earlier, doctors fought to save the life of Lee Harvey Oswald. His defiant lips were sealed forever. Without a confession, Oswald was declared dead at 1:07 P.M., Sunday, Nov. 24, 1963.

The time of Kennedy's death was stated as "approximately 1:00 o'clock," Friday, Nov. 22.

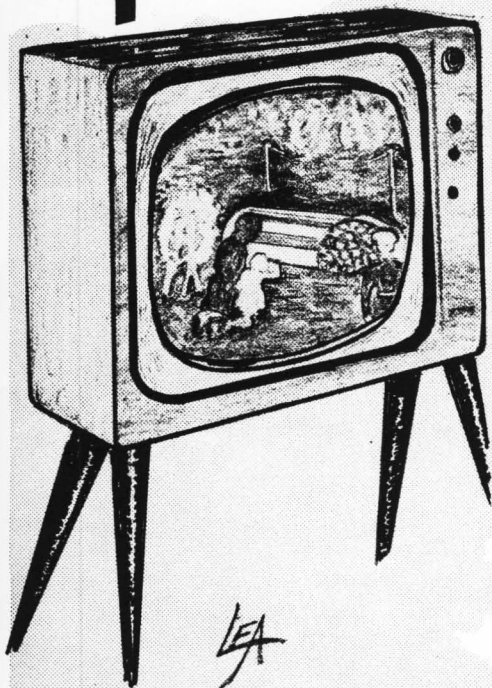


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THE WORLD STOOD STILL

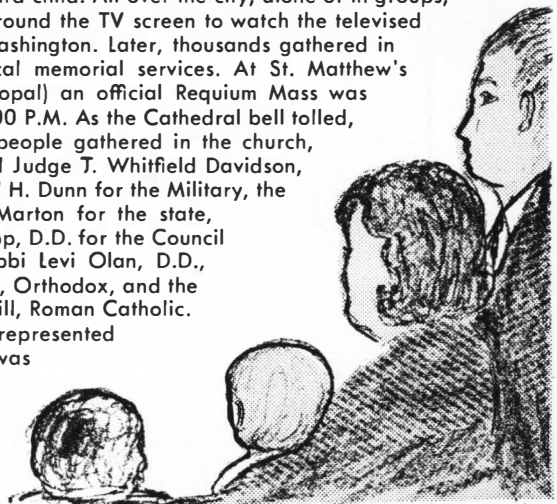


Episcopal Diocese of Dallas — Used by Permission



Business, entertainment, everything stood still on Monday, Nov. 25. Flags flew at half mast. Americans of all faiths, differences submerged in sorrow, wept and worshipped together as Cardinal Cushing repeated the Requiem Mass in English before all the world through the facilities of every channel, station and network. Dallasites, predominantly Protestant, conservative, and more Republican than any other city in Texas, mourned for the Catholic, liberal, Democrat president with the abandoned grief of a wayward child. All over the city, alone or in groups, they gathered around the TV screen to watch the televised services from Washington. Later, thousands gathered in churches for local memorial services. At St. Matthew's Cathedral (Episcopal) an official Requiem Mass was celebrated at 5:00 P.M. As the Cathedral bell tolled, more than 900 people gathered in the church, including Federal Judge T. Whitfield Davidson, Brig. Gen. Carrol H. Dunn for the Military, the Hon. Crawford Marton for the state, Rev. Thomas Shipp, D.D. for the Council of Churches, Rabbi Levi Olan, D.D., Rev. Peter Bethos, Orthodox, and the Rev. Robert McGill, Roman Catholic. Mrs. Earl Cabell represented the Mayor, who was in Washington.

Above: Overflow crowd outside the Cathedral.



"The assassination of our late President is but the evidence of an evil among us which is too lightly regarded and too frequently ignored . . . Let the death of this Christian Layman be the beginning of a return of this nation to moral law and to such Christian attributes as will make us a true leader among the people of the earth."
— Bishop Mason, at St. Matthew's Cathedral, Nov. 25, 1963

THREE DESTINIES

ON THE DAY that President John F. Kennedy was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery, two funerals took place in Texas.



OFFICER J. D. TIPPIT, honored by his companions in the police department, attended by cordons of police from other cities, tenderly remembered by his church and community, and mourned throughout the world, was carried to his resting place by a select band of men in uniform.



DMN-TD



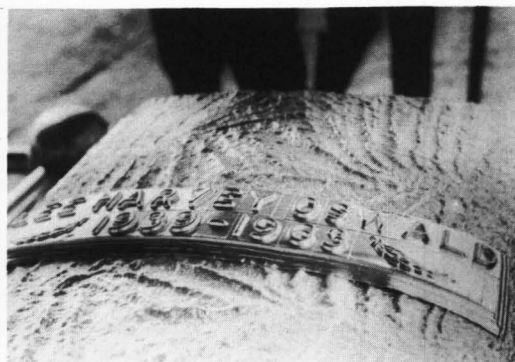
DMN-EH

LEE HARVEY OSWALD, mourned only by his wife and children, his mother, and his brother, was hastily

buried in a lonely plot on a windy hill in Rose Hill Cemetery near Fort Worth. Newsmen, come to represent the world's curiosity, volunteered to carry the bronze casket, and Fort Worth police mounted a watch over the lonely grave. (Asked where her son should be buried, Mrs. Oswald responded, "Arlington!")



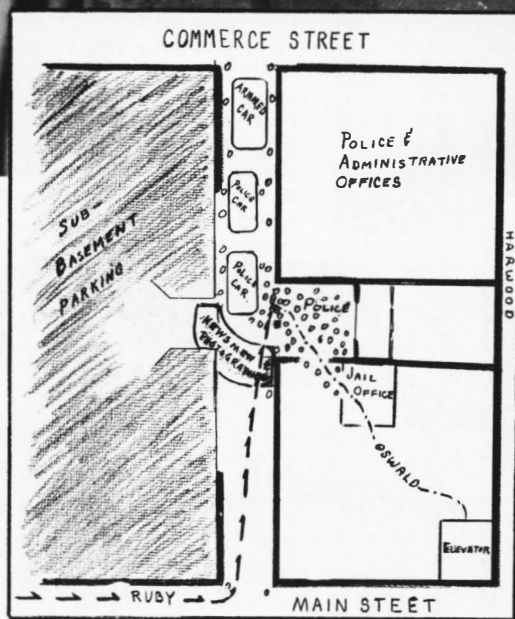
DMN-EH



DMN-EH



DMN-TD



OSWALD'S LAST WALK

The City Hall Basement houses off-the-street parking for police and official vehicles, and the Police Admissions Office for the City of Dallas. Here Oswald had been brought in by police on the afternoon of Nov. 22. Here he was returned by elevator from his jail cell on the morning of Nov. 24, to be removed to County Jail by armored car. (Some say the armored car was a decoy — that one of the two police cars parked in the drive was to have been used.) Here the accused assassin fell victim himself to an assassin's gun. The man in the white hat stands at approximately the point where Oswald fell. This picture was made from the Main Street entrance.

"WHO IS JACK RUBY?"

HOW MANY in Dallas that Sunday morning — perhaps even armed men in uniform, on guard at City Hall — choked back an instinctive cry to avenge their President? Who knows?

Dallas is a young, vigorous city, not many years removed from the frontier. But there was no lynch mob clamoring at the jail doors that morning. Instead, Dallas mourned in her churches, at home watching memorial telecasts, or gathered solemnly at the assassination site, bringing flowers, standing in reverent tribute. Cars crept along Elm and Main and Commerce like a funeral procession.

But when news of Oswald's death reached the assassination site, there was a brief, repressed shout, quickly muffled — then guilty silence.

Then came the questions: "Who is Jack Ruby? Why did he do it? Is he part of a Communist plot? Or is he a patriot? What is he?"

Said a police officer who had known him ten years: "He was a man with a chip on his shoulder. He had a persecution complex. He yearned for attention. He was always quick with his fists."

(As a lad selling paper bags on a Chicago street corner, he learned early to survive by his wits and his fists.)

Said a reporter: "He was highly emotional, given to flashy clothes. He was always concerned with 'class'. He tried to elevate himself. He was a frustrated Flo Ziegfeld."

"The Chicago Cowboy," he liked to dress in Western wear, big hats, high heeled boots.

He operated a burlesque, strip-tease club on Commerce Street, known as the Carousel. He greatly admired prominent people — often gave them free tickets to his club. Employees there saw him as a brawler, do-it-yourself bouncer, quick tempered, quick to fire without notice — but quick to make up, often generous to a fault.

Said his former fiancée: "He was always a perfect gentleman. Kind, considerate. I never knew him to drink, or to use vile language."

Said a former stripper in his night club: "He's really two people. He can be very nice, very helpful. He can be violent. But I didn't think he'd turn killer."



JACK RUBY — POLICE PHOTO

He was religious. "He said Kaddesh every morning at 6:00 a.m. at the synagogue for a full year after his father died," his sister declares. "But the assassination of the President grieved him more than the death of his father."

His Rabbi testified that Jack Ruby attended memorial service Saturday night, grieving. He also told of an occasion earlier when Ruby had shown him his dogs and said, weeping, "They are all I have! They are my wife and my children!"

"If I had only married . . .!" he cried during questioning.

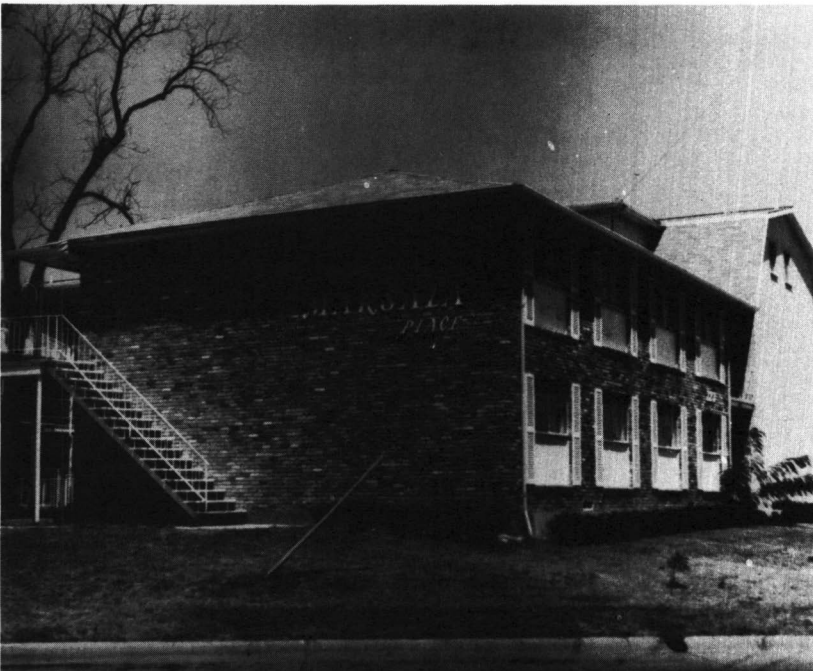
Arresting officers testified that he declared, "I did it for Jackie! I didn't want her to have to come back here for trial. Caroline and Johnnie don't have a daddy any more!"

Prosecutors declared that he thought he would be a hero, that the murder of Oswald would bring him approval, fame and fortune.

Defense contended that he admired Kennedy, was an unstable person who felt an exaggerated sense of personal loss and sympathy for the widow and children, went into a state of emotional shock, resulting in his being "completely out of his mind," or in a fugue state; that because of the emotional reaction throughout the city — the anger, the frustration, the sense of guilt — Ruby would be made a scapegoat to bear away the sins of the people.

Who is Jack Ruby?

An enigma — loving, hating — violent, kind — aspiring, frustrated — good, evil — a man like other men until — like a moth in a flame — he stepped into one blazing moment of destiny.



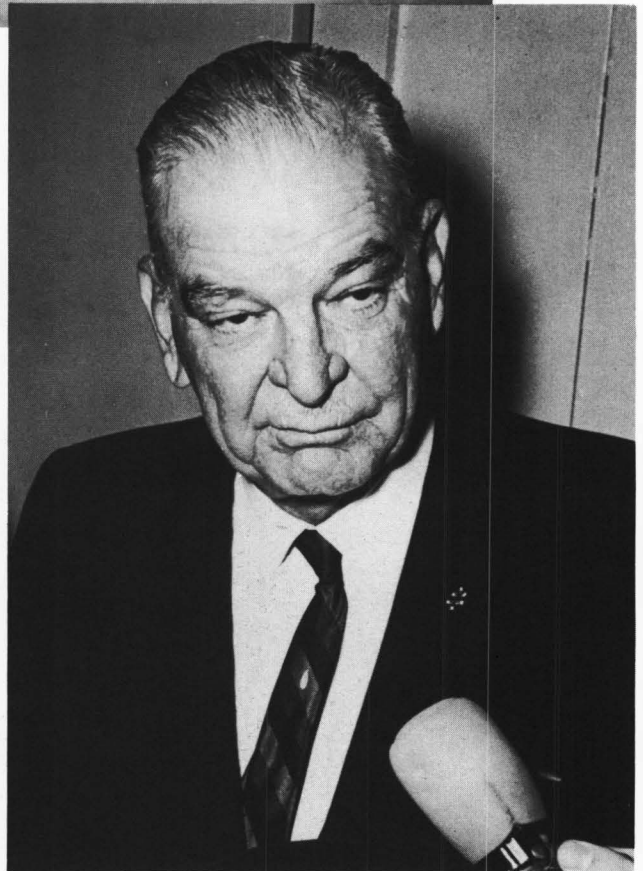
MARSALA APARTMENTS at 223 S. Ewing in Oak Cliff area of Dallas, home of Jack Ruby at the time of the assassination.



DMN-JB

TOO MUCH IS ENOUGH!

The case of Jack Ruby, assassin's assassin, was assigned to Judge Joe B. Brown, Criminal District Court #3. In the face of a torrent of public curiosity, Judge Brown banned live radio and TV coverage of the trial, and excluded all cameras from the courtroom while trial was in session. To apportion seats in his tiny courtroom, seating 62, to the public and worldwide press, Judge Brown accepted the services of a local public relations firm. Judge Brown also firmly denied bond and change of venue petitions. He did accept the offer of Judge J. Frank Wilson of the use of his larger courtroom, seating 200, during the murder trial itself.



On one occasion during the jury selection, Judge Brown was indisposed. Judge Wilson sat in his stead, and firmly concluded the selection of the jury which had dragged painfully through two and a half weeks.

DMN-BW



DMN-JB

COMMON SCENE — RARE PHOTO. Although cameras were banned, Judge Brown's courtroom was not camera-proof. This unusual photo made through the glass of a tiny window in the courtroom door, shows attorneys on their feet, objecting and arguing, during the change of venue hearing, a situation which occurred with great frequency and regularity. Attorneys standing, left to right: Prosecution attorneys A. D. Jim Bowie, and Henry Wade. Defense attorneys Melvin Belli and Joe Tonahill. Judge Brown on the Bench. Behind Joe Tonahill, the back of Ruby's head (bald) surrounded by guards. Also visible on counsel table, Melvin Belli's famous red velvet brief case. Blurring results from light on the window glass.

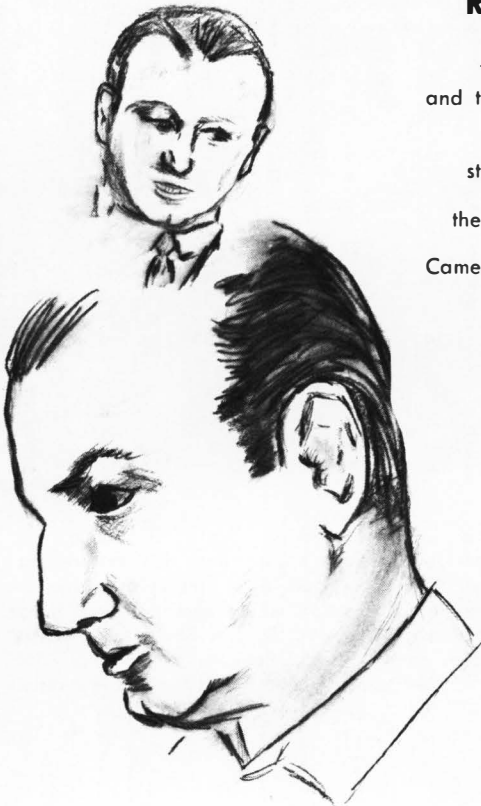


DMN-JB

RELENTLESS SPOTLIGHT

THE WORLD demanded knowledge, and the press was there to see that the world was not deprived.

Clogging the halls, jostling on the stairs, alert for a vacancy in the right category so that they might enter the courtroom, the press exceeded the "public" throughout the long trial. Cameras, forbidden inside the courtroom, bristled like a bastion in the hall facing the courtroom door.



INSIDE, while lawyers labored to defend or convict, deft artists representing magazines, newspapers, and the major wire services, sketched busily, filling in courtroom scenes which they had prepared on their sketchpads in advance, preserving for history the postures and facial expressions of the principals in this relentless drama of destiny.

Here, attorney Tonahill rises to object in cross questioning of "Little Lynn" on witness stand.



STATEMENT FOR THE PRESS. When court recessed, reporters and cameramen swarmed. Attorneys for both prosecution and defense showed little reluctance to confer with reporters. Here, in the courtroom, two press conferences are in session. Center foreground: Henry Wade poses for cameramen and makes his statement for the press. Upper left; Attorneys Melvin Belli and Joe Tonahill are surrounded by reporters. Judge Brown complained of cameramen standing on the tables.

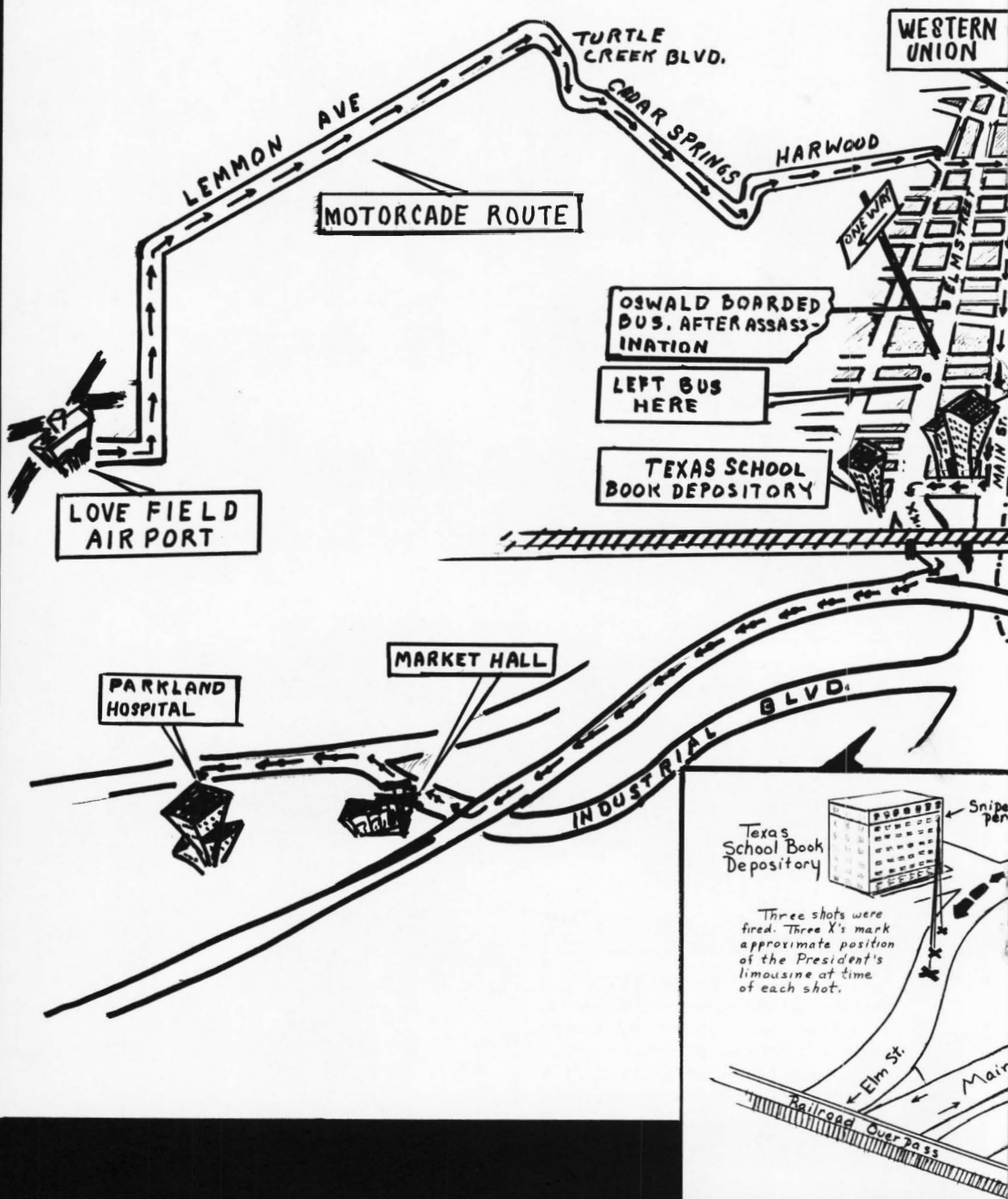




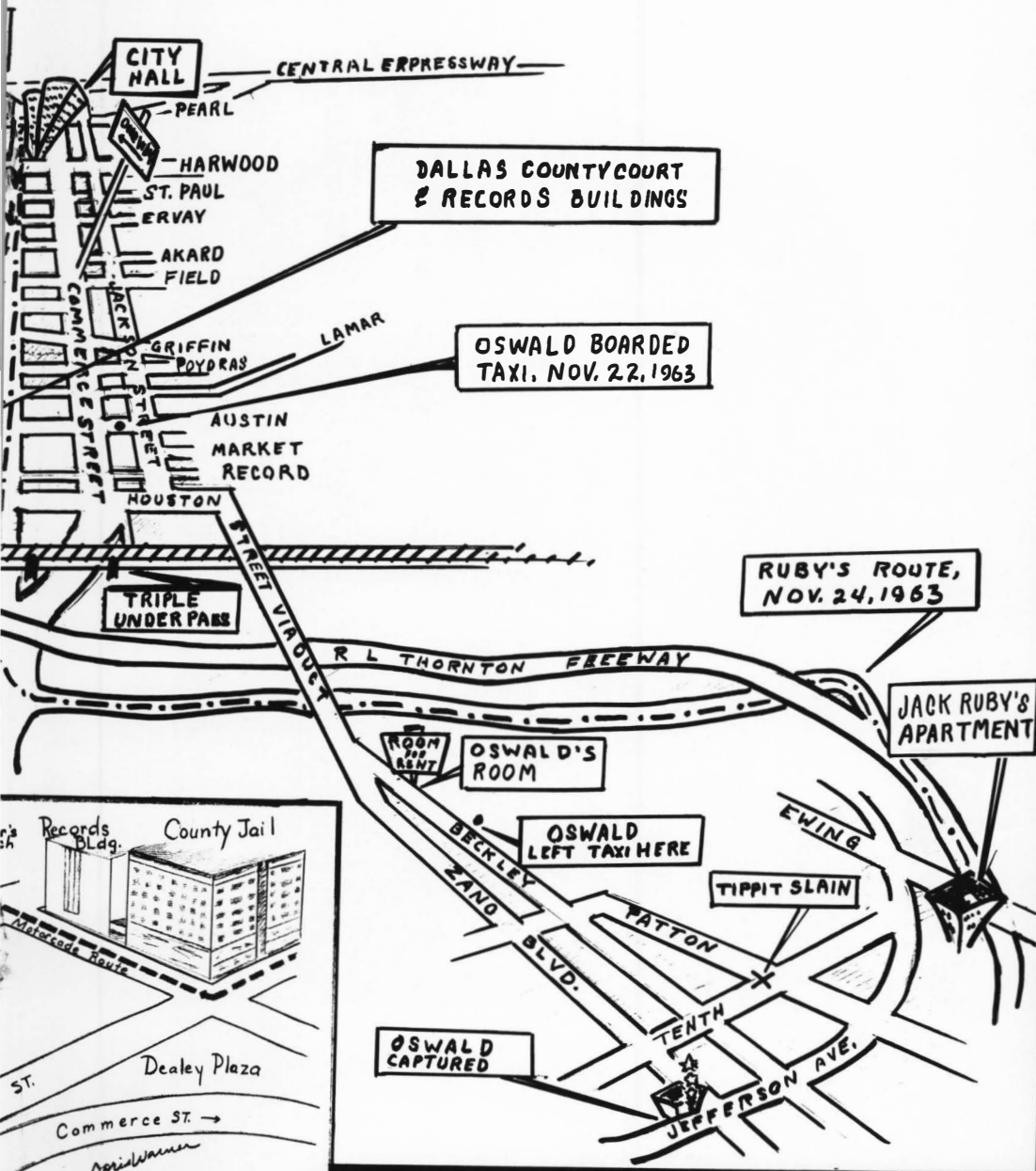
NO ASSASSIN'S ASSASSIN!

Whisked in and out of the courtroom completely surrounded by armed deputies whose eyes scan the courtroom throughout every hearing, Jack Ruby is guarded like the crown jewels!

PATHS of



DESTINY



KALIEDOSCOPE

Some called it the trial of the century. Others recalled Scopes or Sacco-Vanzetti. At any rate, this case brought together some of the nation's most colorful attorneys, with frequent changes among the defense personnel.

PLAYING THE LEADING ROLE in the intense drama of defense was Melvin Belli, San Francisco "King of Torts."

"I'm accused of being flamboyant," Belli declares. "That means colorful." And colorful he is, from his red velvet brief case to his courtroom strategy. A nationally known pioneer in the field of damage claims, his record of victories set him out as perhaps one of the most brilliant strategists in his field. A student of medicine and psychiatry in relation to the law, Mr. Belli mustered his strategy around diagnoses by renowned psychiatrists, alleging rare psychomotor variant epilepsy. A victory in this case on Belli's terms would have made legal history.



DMN-CG

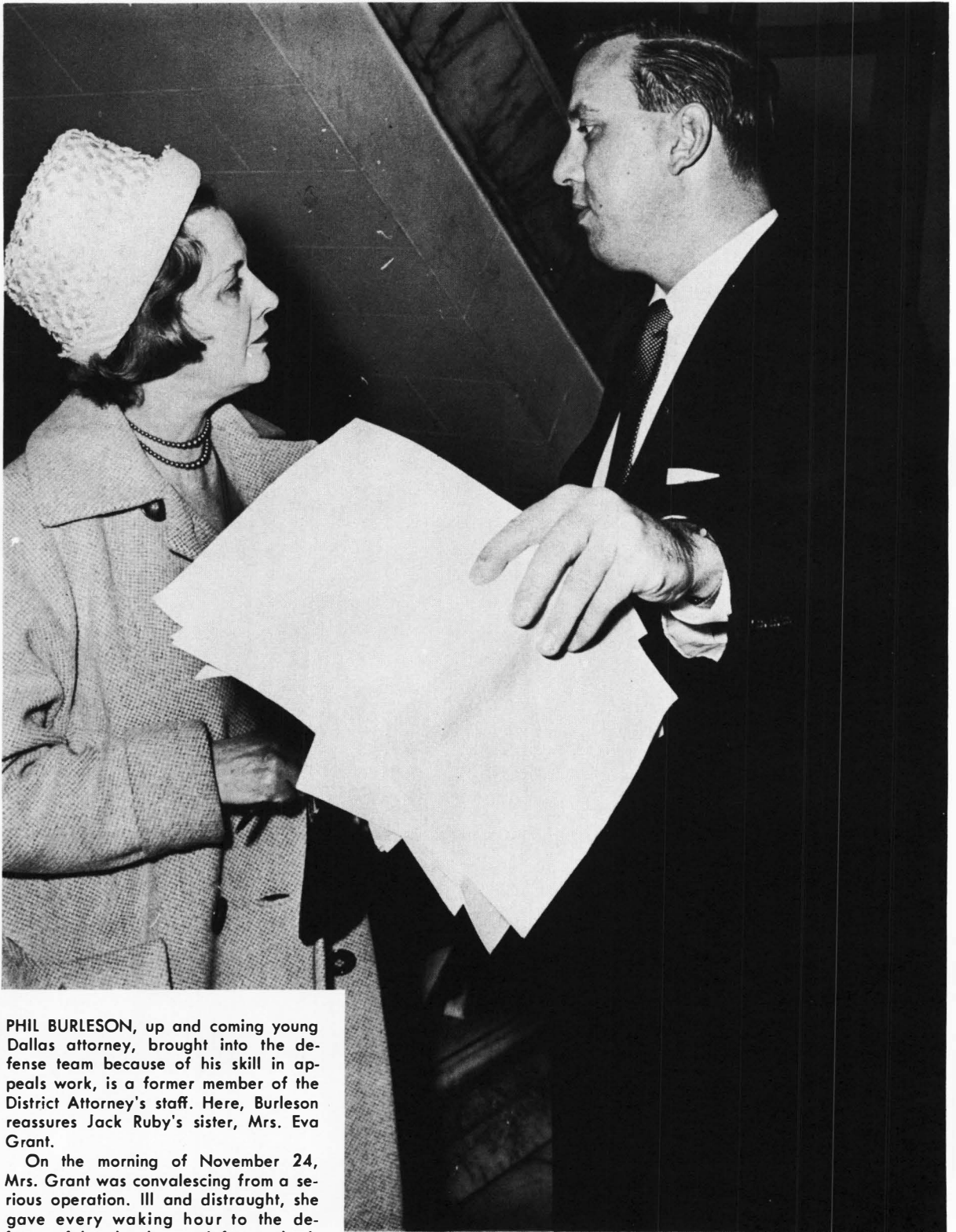


TOWERING JOE TONAHILL, country style attorney from Jasper, Texas, has tried several cases with Belli. Easily the largest, the loudest, and the most volatile attorney in the courtroom, Tonahill's immense size, his bushy, beetling brows and the half-frame glasses perched precariously on the top of his head or the tip of his nose, combined with his verbal barrages aimed at the prosecution or the court, added color to the proceedings from the first bond hearing through to the final verdict.




DMN-JB





PHIL BURLESON, up and coming young Dallas attorney, brought into the defense team because of his skill in appeals work, is a former member of the District Attorney's staff. Here, Burleson reassures Jack Ruby's sister, Mrs. Eva Grant.

On the morning of November 24, Mrs. Grant was convalescing from a serious operation. Ill and distraught, she gave every waking hour to the defense of her brother and former business partner. Except when excluded from the courtroom because of subpoena, Mrs. Grant was always on hand. Even then, she hovered nearby in a corridor or empty courtroom, ready to do anything in her power to save her brother's life.



CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATION
DIVISION
THEFT

AMONG THE FIRST of the brilliant kaleidoscope of defense attorneys for Jack Ruby was Tom Howard, 46 year old Dallas lawyer whose success in defending notorious clients had been phenomenal. Howard had defended more than 50 accused murderers without losing one to the chair. After a conference with Ruby in his cell, Howard gave a statement, on camera. He indicated that at the time of the shooting, Ruby was "completely out of his mind," and that the defense plea would be temporary insanity.

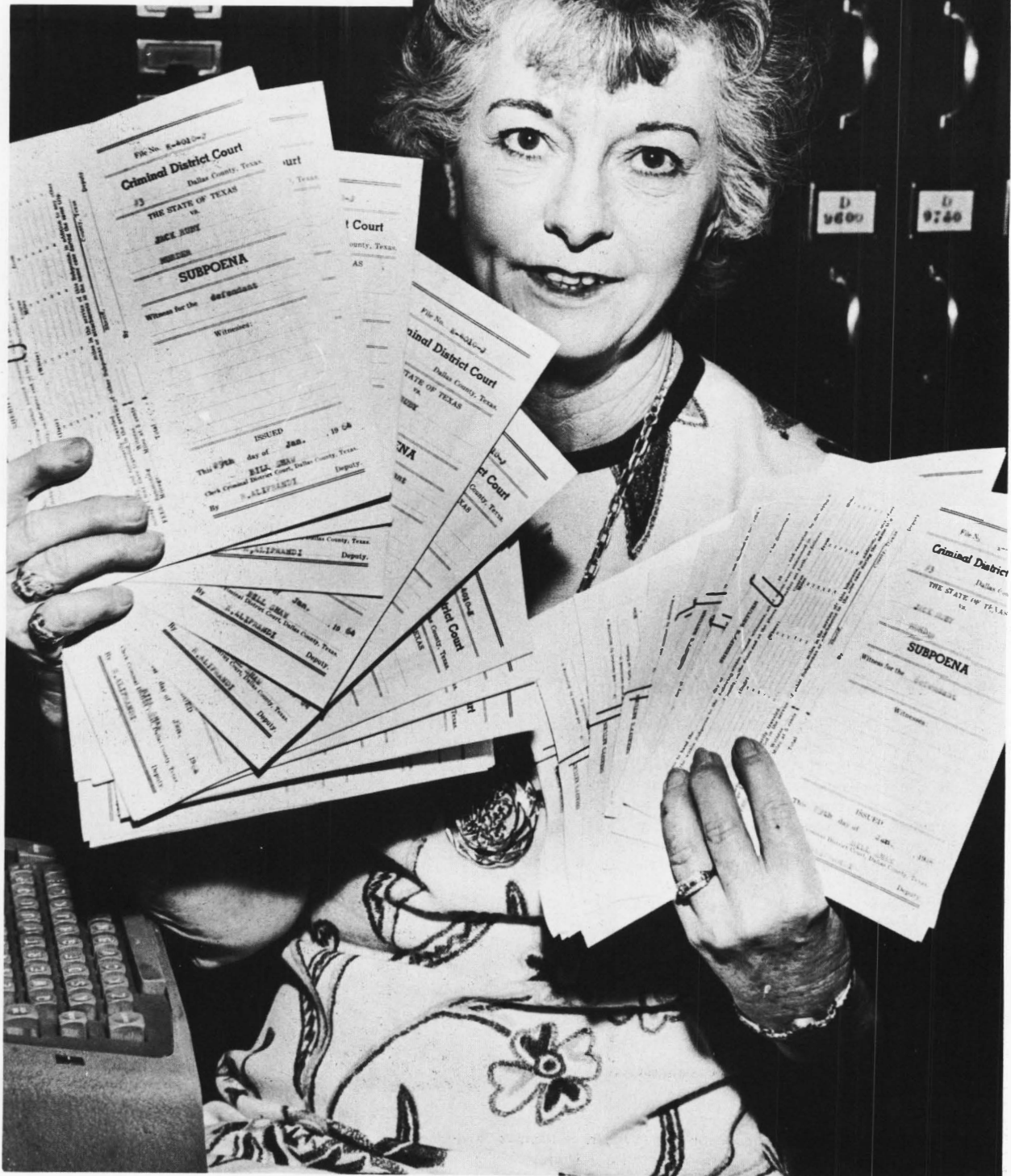
Mr. Howard's participation in the Ruby case was short lived. He withdrew before the case went to trial.

DMN-JB

ADDING COLOR to the changing pattern, attorneys in and out of the Ruby case include: Sam Brody of Los Angeles; Percy Foreman of Houston; Hubert Smith of Texas University Law School, Austin; Clayton Fowler, Dallas; Sol Dann of Detroit, and others.

STATUS SYMBOL

DEFENSE STRATEGY relied heavily upon a demand for change of venue, based upon wide publicity and the emotional climate of Dallas. Rumor spread rapidly around town that you are "nobody" if you are not served with a defense subpoena. Here, court clerk Roamie Aliprandi displays a double handful of the 165 subpoenas served for the defense.



Mayor Earle Cabell testified that he felt Dallas was on the defensive, and that it would be no reflection on Dallas if the case were to be moved.



DMN-JB



Doris Warner, pretty manager of Marsala Place Apartments (Ruby's former landlady) testified that after talking to as many as 100 people about the case, she found that "everyone has formed an opinion — either for him or against him."

DMN-JB

Stanley Marcus, President of Dallas' famed Neiman-Marcus and native of the city, sometimes called "the conscience of Dallas," expressed grave doubts whether either the defense or prosecution could get a fair trial in Dallas. Asked if he did not believe the court could find 12 qualified and impartial jurors in Dallas, Mr. Marcus replied, "I think you could find anything in a million people," but added it would be more likely somewhere else.



DMN-JB



DMN-JB

STACKS OF NEWSPAPERS were carried into the courtroom as Dallas Morning News and Times Herald each complied with subpoenas duces tecum. Eventually, all news releases dealing with the assassinations were entered in evidence by both defense and prosecution.

ATTORNEYS TESTIFY AT VENUE HEARING



DMN-JB

SAM DONOSKY, Dallas attorney: Dallas is under the gun. He would have a hard hill to climb if the case is tried in Dallas. Of course, a fair trial in Dallas would be a possibility, but it is not right for a defendant to have to climb a hill.

C. A. DROBY, Chairman of the Board of the Dallas Criminal Bar Association: If I were defending Ruby, I would want it moved. In another county, he would have two strikes against him, but here it would seem that he has three! (Droby has practiced law in Dallas 14 years. He also testified that early in the case, when some thought he might defend Ruby, his wife received threatening phone calls.)



DMN-JB

CLAYTON FOWLER, President of Dallas Criminal Bar Association: Most people in Dallas are opinionated about the Ruby case. My impression is that Ruby would have a hard time getting a fair trial anywhere he was moved. If I were you (speaking to the defense) I would want it moved. You have a duty to the man.
(After dismissal of Belli and withdrawal of two subsequent chief counsels for defense, Fowler accepted the assignment, becoming the fifth attorney to hold the position of Chief Defense Counsel in the case.)



DMN-JB

JUDGE LEW STERRETT: I think he can get a fair trial here.



DMN-TD

THREE FOR DEATH

On behalf of the people of the State of Texas, a smoothly coordinated and highly effective team of prosecutors early demanded and consistently drove for the maximum penalty under the law of the state — death in the electric chair.

Left: William F. (Bill) Alexander, hard hitting prosecutor for the District Attorney's office has a well established reputation for toughness. Sharp, shrewd, vocal, Alexander gives no quarter.

Standing: A. D. Jim Bowie the "book lawyer" for the state, is also an able courtroom lawyer. Disarmingly pleasant, Bowie is nevertheless a formidable foe in the courtroom because of his thorough knowledge of the law and sharp grasp of detail.

Right: Henry Wade, Dallas County District Attorney since 1951. Son of a country lawyer from Rockwall, Texas, Wade hitch hiked to the University of Texas for his legal training. A roommate there — a lad named John Connally — became Governor of Texas, shared President Kennedy's last ride and very nearly shared his fate. Wade appears relaxed at the counsel table, nonchalantly chewing an unlit cigar. His words are few, but effective. He declares, "I never ask for the death penalty unless I am convinced that the case merits it . . . that I would vote for it if serving on the jury."

Wade had stated his intention to ask for the death penalty for Oswald — and upon hearing of Oswald's death, immediately declared he would put Ruby in Oswald's place in the trial schedule, and demand the death penalty for Ruby.

The key to Wade's success is hard work and thoroughness. The "uptown" lawyer who mistakes Henry Wade for a country bumpkin does so at his own peril!

PROSECUTION EVIDENCE at the venue hearing consisted of notarized affidavits signed by Dallas residents to the effect that, after having discussed the Ruby case with other qualified jurors, they were persuaded Jack Ruby could and would receive a fair and impartial trial before a fair and impartial jury in Dallas County. None of these signators were called by the prosecution to appear in court to face cross examination.

BELOW: A similar affidavit, circulated for the defense, indicated widespread opinion that such fair trial would not be possible.

RIGHT: Dallas County Sheriff Bill Decker confers with District Attorney Henry Wade. Decker has been sheriff of Dallas County since 1948. He is recognized throughout the nation as one of the most able peace officers that Texas has produced. During his long term of office, the Dallas Sheriff's Department has been free from any scandal. Responsibility for custody of the prisoner and for maintaining peace and security rested with Sheriff Decker and his Department.

THE STATE OF TEXAS
VS.
JACK RUBY

No. E-4010-J
In the Criminal District Court No. 3
Dallas County, Texas
January Term A.D. 1964

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared _____ who after being duly sworn deposes as follows:

My name is _____ I reside in _____ community, Texas, in the _____ community, and am a qualified juror of Dallas County.

I know of no combination of persons seeking to keep Jack Ruby from receiving a fair and impartial trial; nor does there exist in Dallas County so great a prejudice against Jack Ruby that he cannot receive a fair and impartial trial of the above captioned murder charge against him.

I believe that a fair and impartial jury can be selected in Dallas County to try the cause against Jack Ruby.

I have read articles in the newspapers and watched television newscasts about the Jack Ruby case, together with the same wherever I have seen, read, and heard, and I am fully satisfied that the people of Dallas are not indifferent to the cause of Jack Ruby and his trial.

I have no opinion as to Jack Ruby's guilt or innocence, nor any opinion as to what the punishment should be if he is found guilty of the crime.

I have discussed the Jack Ruby case with other qualified jurors of Dallas County and their opinions are the same as mine, that Jack Ruby will not receive a fair and impartial trial in Dallas County.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority on this the _____ day of _____, 1964.

Notary Public



NO. E-4010-J
IN THE CRIMINAL DISTRICT
COURT NUMBER THREE OF
DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

THE STATE OF TEXAS
VS.
JACK RUBY

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared _____ who after being duly sworn deposes and states as follows:

My name is _____ I reside in _____ community which is in the _____ County, Texas, in the _____ part of the County, and am a qualified juror of Dallas County.

I do not believe that a fair and impartial jury can be selected in Dallas County to try the cause against Jack Ruby.

I have read many articles in the newspapers, heard the radio and watched television newscasts about the Jack Ruby case, and from what I have heard, seen, and read, together with what people I have talked with about the case have said, I am of the opinion that the people of Dallas are not indifferent to the opinion that the people of Dallas are not indifferent to the Jack Ruby and his trial.

Most of the people I have talked with and discussed the Jack Ruby case with feel that the City of Dallas is on trial in the Ruby case. Most also feel that the assassination of President Kennedy and the shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald are so intertwined that they cannot separate the impact of one from the other, especially as to the damaging effect they had upon the City of Dallas and her citizens, individually and as a whole.

I have discussed the Jack Ruby case with other qualified jurors of Dallas County and their opinions are the same as mine, that Jack Ruby will not receive a fair and impartial trial in Dallas County.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority on this the _____ day of February, 1964.

Notary Public in and for Dallas County, Texas

SECURITY MEASURES

DESTINY struck twice, and Dallas bore the blame! Even Destiny would have trouble getting through Dallas security a third time!

EVERY person who entered the courtroom was carefully frisked. Even approved and accredited news personnel underwent search every time they returned from the phone. Below: Attractive Sheriff's Deputy Rosemary Allen and impressive Capt. F. M. Buckalew firmly bar entrance to Judge Brown's court until time for the doors to open, and stand ready to supervise the frisking.





DMN-JB



DMN-JB

EVERY PURSE was searched. Pistols, nail files, rattail combs, hair brushes, and all such possible lethal weapons were confiscated by order of the sheriff. Cameras and tape recorders were barred by order of the judge.

Women were ticklish, but submitted willingly to probing search.



"KEEP THIS UNDER YOUR HAT!"

Not if you were going to the Ruby trial! Coats, hats, trousers cuffs—all likely and unlikely hiding places were skillfully searched.

Even the little folks were frisked. Andy Bowie, 8, son of Assistant District Attorney A. D. Jim Bowie, and his cousin, 10, are carefully searched before being admitted to the court.

DMN-JF



DMN-JB

THIS ONE DIDN'T MAKE IT to the security line. Picked up at the District Attorney's Office with a loaded .32 automatic, David C. Glass, of Medford, Oregon, is fingerprinted by Deputy Sheriff J. H. Kitchens. One of a number of persons picked up around the courthouse and classed as mentally deranged, Glass declared that a judge in New Mexico told him last July (1963) that President Kennedy would be killed on Nov. 22 by Oswald, that Ruby would kill Oswald, and that he (Glass) was then to come to Dallas and kill Ruby.







NO LIVE COVERAGE of the Ruby trial — but during the bond and venue hearings reporters and photographers had open season before each session. Surrounded by cameras, Ruby had opportunity to speak to a listening world. He spoke emotionally of the need for love, compassion, wept at mention of the Kennedys, declared, "I loved that man!" He declared he had been reading the Bible with help of a friend, a Protestant who had studied for the ministry, and was a "changed man." At the request of prosecution attorneys the press sessions were discontinued.



OUTSIDE THE COURTROOM of Judge J. Frank Wilson where Judge Joe B. Brown presided over the murder trial of Jack Ruby, a corner was roped off for the press photographers. Published reports indicated that this larger courtroom would accommodate 48 persons in addition to 152 seats for the press. Many stood in line from 7:00 A.M. in vain. One morning only seven from the line were admitted. None of these had arrived later than 4:00 A.M. When court recessed for lunch, the courtroom was cleared, and spectators went back to the foot of the line.

But waiting in line was not always dull. Visiting attorneys from all over America tried, convicted and sentenced or acquitted the defendant every day. Amateur artists sketched and photographers photographed the line on the stairs. There were games of bridge and rummy, and constant jockeying for position nearer the courtroom door.



DMN-CG



DMN-JB

FROM DAYLIGHT ON, the hopeful spectators who had gathered in the upper hall formed a line, in the order of their arrival. Deputies enforced a single-file line on the stairs. Outside the door, the lines could double up so long as an entry and exit way was kept open. Many of these people waited all day, day after day, without ever getting inside. Many came great distances, waited a day, and went on.



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(Mrs. Oswald poses with Judge Brown.)



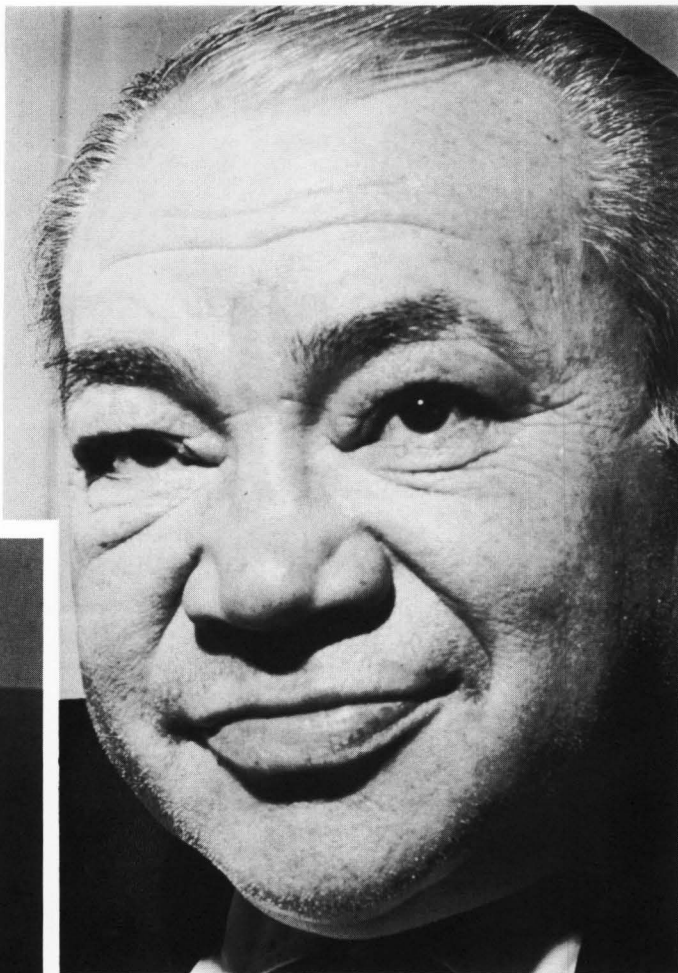
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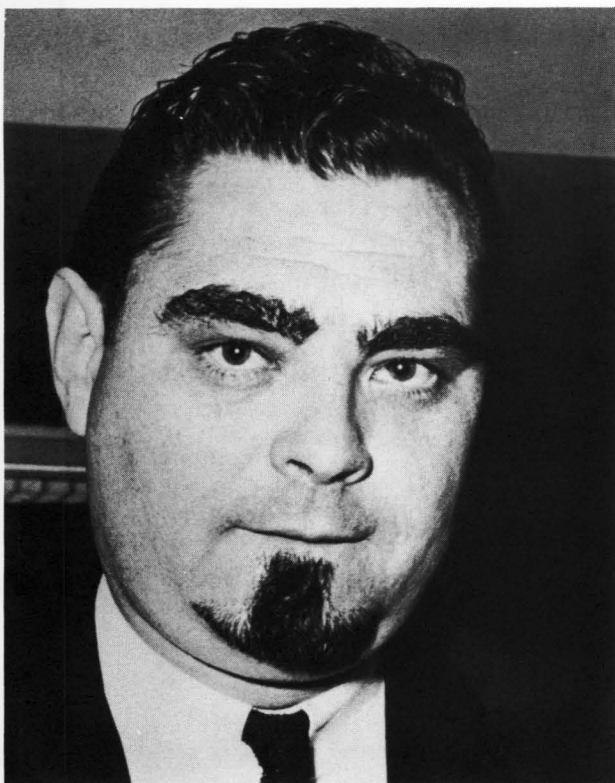
DMN-JB

INTERESTING WITNESSES PASSED along the stairs.

There was **BARNEY ROSS**, former boxing champ, who grew up with Ruby on Chicago's east side, and flew in to testify in defense of his old pal "Sparky" . . .



DMN-JL



DMN-BW

and there was **RUSS KNIGHT**, radio's "Wierd Beard," who had talked with Ruby at City Hall on the night of Nov. 22 . . .



DMN-BW

and **GEORGE SENATER** pointed out by one spectator to another as "Jack Ruby's Roommate." Actually, Senater rented an apartment adjoining Ruby's. Senater strolled about the halls warmly muffled in a heavy overcoat and scarf.

And there were several of Ruby's former employees, including Penny Dollar, brought from jail in an another city and held in the Dallas jail while waiting to testify. And Little Lynn . . .

"LITTLE

MISS

BAD

LUCK"



DMN-JB

Karen Lynn Bennet (Little Lynn) is helped from a taxi on the occasion of her last appearance at the Ruby trial by Melinda McKimball, secretary to the investigator for the defense.

Destiny seemed to dog every association of Little Lynn with the case.

It was Little Lynn who called Jack Ruby at his apartment on the night of Nov. 22, inquiring why the Carousel Club was not open. When Ruby raged at her question, she told him she had come to work, and didn't have enough money to get back to Fort Worth. Ruby arranged for a parking lot attendant to lend her \$5.00.

It was Little Lynn who called Jack Ruby from Fort Worth Sunday morning. The Telephone Company records show the time of the telephone call at 10:18 a.m. — eighteen minutes later than the time announced for removal of Oswald from City Jail. She told Ruby she was being evicted from her apartment, and must have \$25.00 salary advance by noon. Ruby drove to Western Union, and wired the money at 11:17. Four minutes later, he was under arrest for the fatal shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald in the basement of City Hall.

Under subpoena at the first bond hearing, to testify in Ruby's defense, it was Little Lynn whose purse yielded a small, unloaded, defective pistol as a result of the police search at the courtroom door.



DMN-TD

OFFICERS eye "Little Lynn" as she is escorted to the courtroom door by defense investigator R. B. Denson, during a preliminary bond hearing in December.

Nervous, hiding behind the fur collar of her dark coat and wearing dark glasses, Lynn submits to search by deputy Rosemary Allen — a search which yielded a clogged, broken pistol, long buried and forgotten in the cluttered depths of her huge black bag.



DMN-TD



DMN-JB

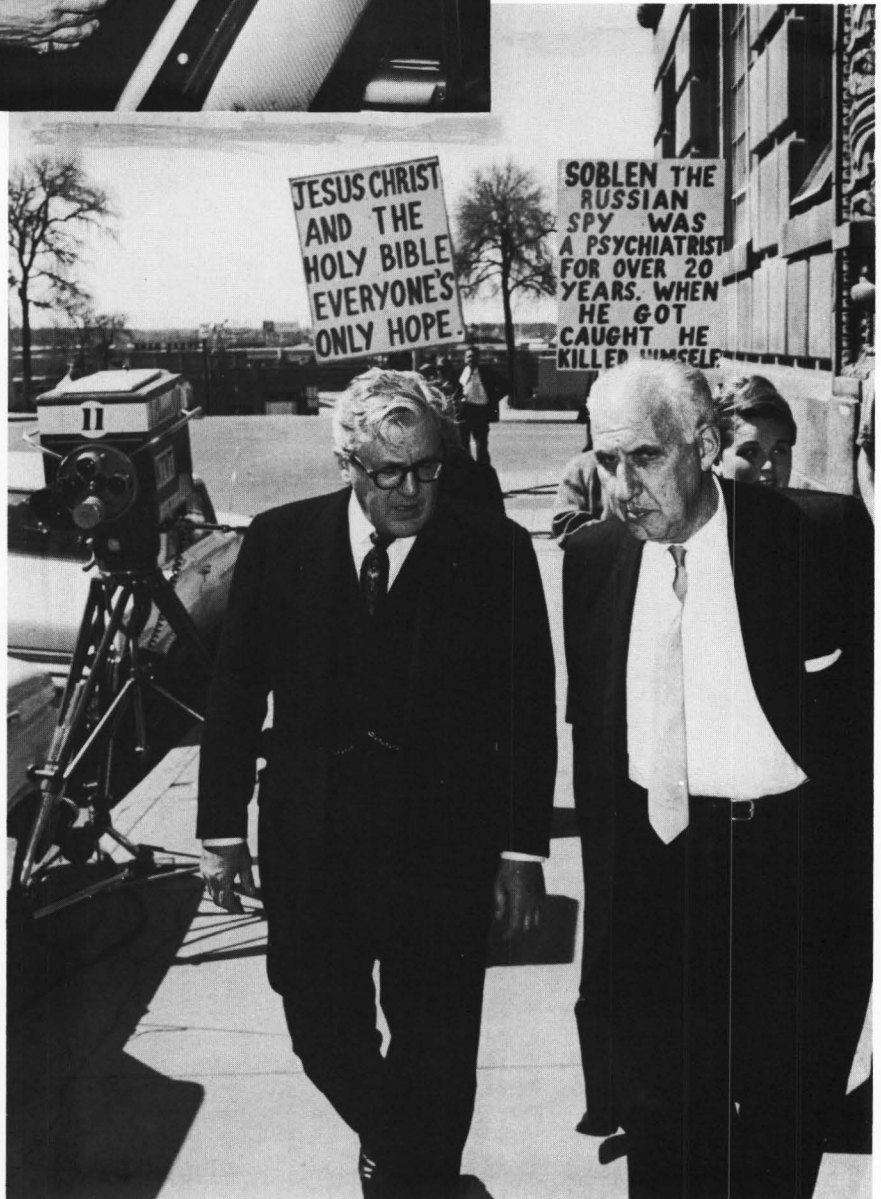
JAIL BREAK. On the occasion of Lynn's last visit to the court (shown on opposite page) she was terrified when seven prisoners, staging a bold daylight escape, brushed past her on the crowded stairway. Here, one of the escapees is captured in a parking lot outside the court building. This man had pushed Mrs. Ruth Thornton, a court clerk, ahead of him as hostage using a realistic pistol fashioned of soap. Deputy Charles Player (facing camera at left) well known to the waiting people on the stairs for his work in maintaining the line and controlling the crowds, had cut through the parking lot, appeared in front of the escapee and quietly relieved him of the bogus weapon. Player himself was unarmed, although he is entitled to wear a badge and gun. Here he holds the soap gun as an armed deputy approaches.



DMN-JB

"BY REASON OF INSANITY"

Win or lose, defense was based solely upon a plea of insanity. Psychiatrists for both prosecution and defense examined Ruby in his jail cell. At left: Ruby is hustled from the jail to a local clinic to receive electroencephalogram to determine possibility of epilepsy or brain damage.



To bolster the plea of insanity, Belli imported an impressive string of top ranking psychiatrists. The prosecution matched them. During the trial, an assortment of off-beat evangelists, picketed the courthouse with signs denouncing psychiatrists in general and the insanity plea in particular. Above, attorney Belli strolls along the walkway amid the signs, accompanied by Dr. Manfred Guttmacher, chief medical officer for the Supreme Bench Trial Court of Baltimore, who testified as an expert witness that Jack Ruby suffered from psychomotor epilepsy, a non-convulsive variant marked by mental blackout and undirected physical activity. He intimated that, due to emotional strains and pre-existing brain damage, Ruby could have been unaware of his action at the time of shooting Oswald. Other respected specialists testified both for and against this diagnosis.

(Behind the Doctor is Mrs. Joy Belli, attractive young wife of the defender.)

DMN-BW

"HUNG JURY"

ANY TWELVE OF THE EXPERTS who appeared before the court to testify regarding Ruby's sanity would have constituted a hung jury! Defense experts indicated possibility of organic brain damage, a history of extreme emotional instability, rare epileptic-type disorder, possible fugue state obscuring the defendant's knowledge of the nature and consequence of his act. Prosecution experts were emphatic in their denial of brain damage as a factor, raised questions as to the accuracy and effectiveness of such tests as Rorschach, thematic, and electroencephalograph. No expert witness presumed to declare accurate knowledge of the exact condition of Ruby's mind at the moment the shot was fired.

Nationally and internationally respected authorities who testified as expert witnesses in the Ruby trial:

1. Dr. Manfred Guttmacher, chief medical officer and psychiatric adviser for the Supreme Bench Trial Court, Baltimore, Md., author, researcher, teacher, pioneer, gave his opinion: "I don't think he was capable of knowing right from wrong, or of knowing the nature and quality of his acts at the time of the homicide."

2. Dr. Martin Towler, University of Texas Medical School, Galveston, defense choice for the three-man panel of psychiatrists to examine Ruby and report to the Court, felt that Ruby was subject to blackout spells, and "would act as an automaton."

3. Dr. John Holbrook, Dallas psychiatrist, prosecution choice for the examining panel, was the first to examine Ruby in his cell, less than 24 hours after the Oswald slaying, felt Ruby did know the difference between right and wrong and the nature and consequence of his acts.

4. Dr. Stubblefield, chairman of the psychiatric department of the University of Texas Southwest Medical Center, Dallas, and Judge Brown's choice to represent the Court as a member of the panel of psychiatric examiners, stated that he believed Ruby legally sane when he examined him, but could not state positively if he was sane at the time of the killing.

5. Dr. Sheff Olinger, Dallas Neurological Clinic, administered the brain wave (EEG) tests requested by the court, defense, prosecution, and examining panel. Dr. Olinger, a graduate of the University of Virginia Medical School with special training in encephalography at the University of Michigan, testified that in Ruby's case, the pattern was not so pronounced as, taken alone, to confirm a diagnosis of psychomotor epilepsy. He stated, however, that "If I had a clinical opinion that the patient had epilepsy, this would support it."

6. Dr. Roy Schafer, Yale University psychologist, called by the defense, had examined Ruby in his cell. He stated that the tests which he had administered indicated brain damage, history of seizure-type periods of confusion and depressed consciousness.

7. Dr. Earle Walter, Johns Hopkins University of Baltimore, declared that Ruby's electroencephalograph showed "no indication of epilepsy."

8. Dr. Francis Forster, University of Wisconsin brain specialist who examined President Eisenhower after he suffered a stroke during his second term, ridiculed the defense contention that Ruby was in a blackout, acting like a robot.

9. Dr. Robert Schwab, Harvard Medical School, testified that the brain wave pattern shown by Ruby's EEG "could be found in a person who has a history of brain damage, but could also be found in persons who have not."

10. Dr. Roland MacKay, psychiatrist and neurosurgeon on the staff of Northwest University Medical School, argued that Ruby's brain wave pattern did not support a finding of psychomotor epilepsy, and would not even suggest such a diagnosis to him. He stated that the pattern could have been made by a "sleepy person, or someone under the influence of drugs."

11. Dr. Walter Bromberg, silver haired author and authority in psychiatry, Pinewood Psychiatric Hospital, Katonah, N. Y. examined Ruby in his cell at the request of Defense. He stated that Ruby showed a Messianic complex, which he explained as a desire to be a martyr and a feeling of need and ability to be a "saviour of his race." He pointed out that Ruby showed vacant spots in conversation, when he would fill in with irrelevant material, noting that persons who black out from alcohol or epilepsy may invent details to "fill in" periods which they can not recall rather than leave these periods a memory vacuum.

12. As Thursday drew to a close, Judge Brown made it clear that he intended to hear no further testimony, and would give the case to the jury as quickly as possible on the following day, Friday, March 13, 1964. At the last minute, Defense begged time for one more witness, Dr. Frederick Gibbs of Chicago. Dr. Gibbs had earlier examined the Ruby brain wave patterns at the request of Dr. Martin Towler, and had been quoted as indicating belief that the pattern showed possible or probable psychomotor variant epilepsy. Described by Dr. Towler as the "father of American encephalography," Dr. Gibbs was portrayed by Defense as a pioneer and preeminent authority in the field of epilepsy research, particularly the psychomotor variant ascribed to the defendant Jack Ruby. Prosecution asked Dr. Gibbs if some experts did not consider him a heretic. "Perhaps, but I would prefer another word," He replied. Dr. Gibbs testified that he had flown to Dallas at his own expense to place his testimony in the record. He stated that epilepsy does not increase the probability of an individual committing a crime, but that his examination of Jack Ruby's brain wave pattern indicated a rare form of epilepsy found in only 1/2 of 1% of epileptics, a form which does not manifest itself in convulsive seizures, but in other ways.

Asked if he had an opinion from his studies of the EEG as to whether Jack Ruby knew the difference between right and wrong, and the nature and consequence of his acts on Nov. 24, 1963, Dr. Gibbs replied, "I have no opinion."



DMN-TD

900 VENIREMEN were called. Before twelve jurors from this group had been qualified, 162 had taken the stand. 121 were excused by the court. Of these, one was ill, 58 admitted having fixed opinions, 62 were excused because they could not pass a sentence of death upon another human being. (Texas law places responsibility for such a sentence upon the jurors.) Defense peremptory challenges eliminated 18, and prosecution challenges another 11. Each juror was asked, "What is your church preference or affiliation?" Then, "Do you have any scruples, religious or otherwise, which would prevent you from — personally, yourself — assessing the death penalty?"



DMN-JB

MOST VENIREMEN had seen the killing on television, either at the time it occurred before live news cameras or in one or more of the many re-runs. Defense contended that these were qualified as witnesses, not as jurors. Attempts to subpoena such prospective jurors were quashed by the court. Attorney Wm. Van Dercreek, of counsel, carried a petition to the 9-member State Supreme Court of Texas at Austin, requesting that TV witnesses be disqualified as jurors. The State Court denied leave to file.



SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1964, where gala throngs had waited eagerly on the morning of Nov. 22, a grim brood hovered like birds of prey in the chilly archways of the old courthouse across Main Street from the Criminal Court.

At 9:15 A.M., twelve Dallas County citizens would place a man's life in the scales, over against ten hard fought days of conflicting expert testimony.

Long before 9:00 A.M., the hall, the stairs, and both ends of the street were filled with men, women, and children, eager for the verdict.

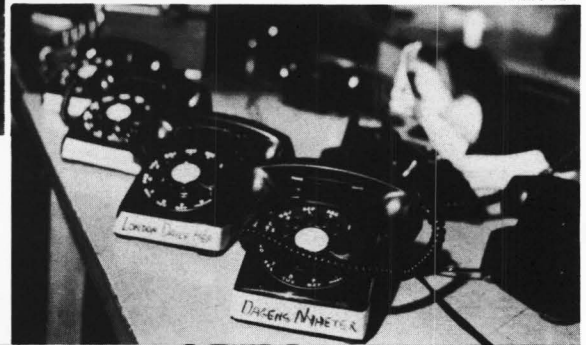


DMN-JB

AFTER EACH MILESTONE, newsmen stampeded through the halls to reach telephones. After selection of a juror . . . completion of the jury . . . testimonies . . . rulings.

But the ultimate news-break came when the jury returned its verdict.

DMN-TD



There were direct lines to Everywhere.



DMN-BW

THE VERDICT WAS THEIRS. It took two and one half weeks, two judges, and exhaustion of all defense challenges to select from the called 900 veniremen a jury of 8 men and 4 women to determine the fate of Jack Ruby, assassin's assassin. Housewives, engineers, secretaries, a purchasing agent, a salesman, a postman — they listened to conflicting testimony from the nation's psychiatric experts. Ten days after testimony began, this jury deliberated two hours and returned a verdict: "Guilty as charged of murder with malice. Sentence: Death in the electric chair."

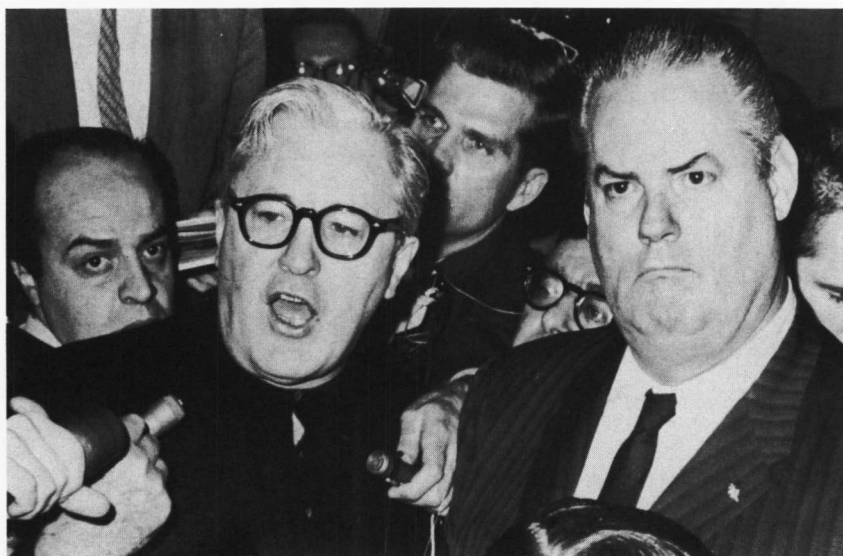
Standing at right: Bailiffs Nell Tyler and Bo Mabro.



DMN-BW

TIRE D VICTOR. On the court house steps, District Attorney Henry Wade, his taut face showing no look of triumph, gives a few answers to newsmen wringing the last dribblets from a completed drama. Yes, he expected a conviction. No, he didn't expect a death sentence so soon. He would have considered a 20 year sentence a victory.

KEPT IN COURT by Judge Brown, who refused to carry the case over into another working day, Defense had concluded its summation to the jury at 1:07 a.m. Weary jurors, some having been confined and closely guarded for nearly a month, had indicated a desire to be home for the weekend. Dismissed in the witching hour, the jury had slept, breakfasted at a nearby hotel coffee shop — passing within an arm's reach of Mrs. Marguerite Oswald on the way — and convened in the jury room at 9:15 a.m. At 11:34, two hours and fourteen minutes later, a knock on the door indicated a decision. Lawyers, deputies, reporters, resumed their posts. After two more hours of waiting for the Judge to appear, court convened briefly to hear the verdict: Guilty as charged of murder with malice . . . Sentence, death in the electric chair.



ANTICLIMAX. The jury filed out. The Judge walked away from the bench. Deputies led Ruby away again to his lonely cell. A tidal wave of reporters and photographers flooded into the courtroom and eddied around the counsel tables. Belli screamed, "Railroad kangaroo court! City of Shame! . . . Don't worry, Jack! We'll appeal . . . Big D! Big Deal!"

Remarked one commentator, "He acted like he never lost a case before!"

DMN-JB

WEARY WARRIOR. Defeated attorney Belli, with massive Joe Tonahill at his side pushes wearily through the quagmire of reporters on the courthouse steps. Two days later, while Belli was in Mexico, the world was notified that he had been dismissed from the case.



DMN-JB

AFTER THE VERDICT

JACK RUBY, convicted and sentenced, hustled from a turbulent courtroom by Sheriff's deputies, recognizes Dallas News photographer Jack Beers — cheerfully calls out, "Hi, Jack!"



DMN-JB

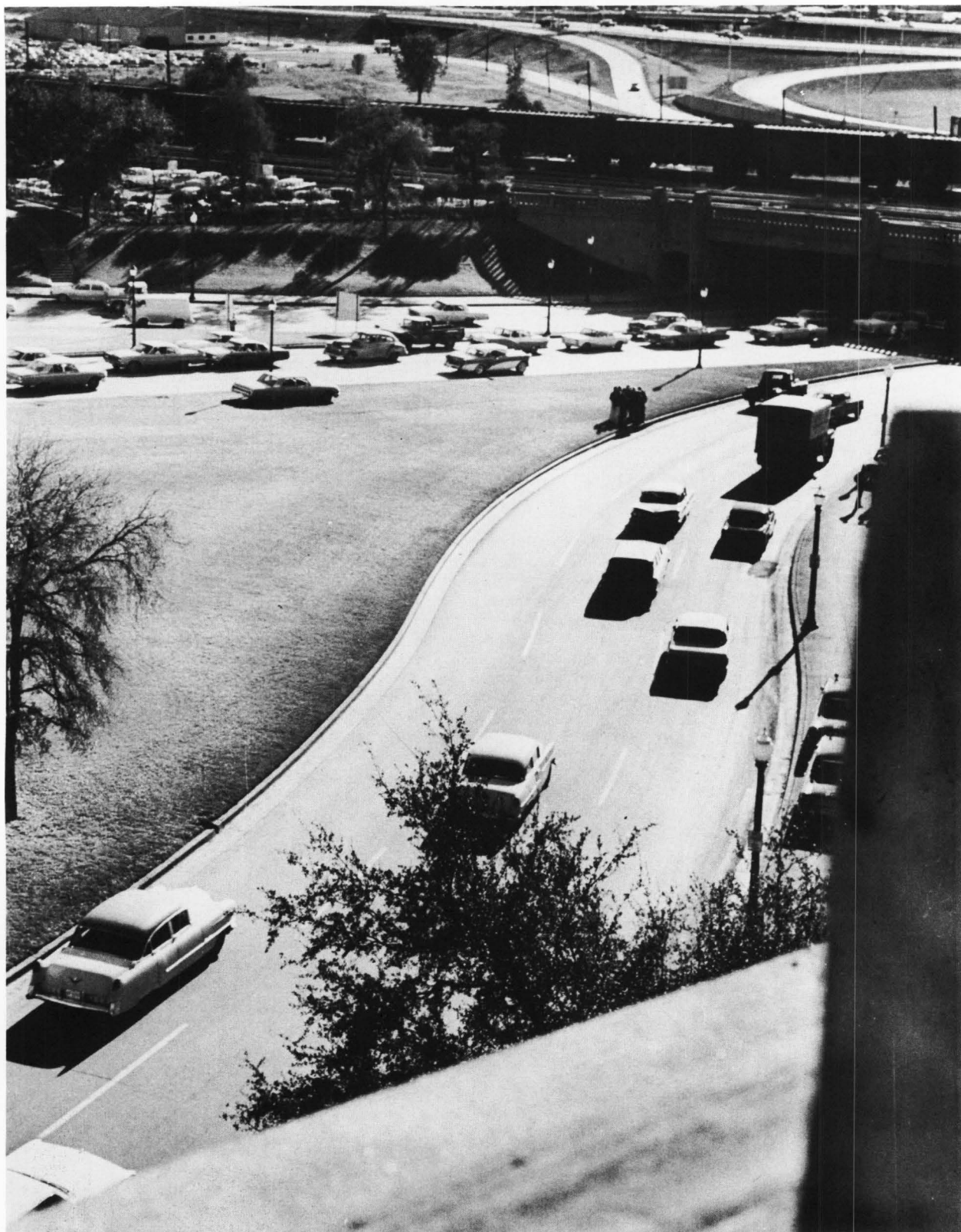
TRAGIC FIGURE. While brilliant lawyers matched wits and the world watched with bated breath, the defendant spoke only four words in his own defense: "I am not guilty."

Day after day, he had listened silently while friend and foe referred to him as a lunatic, a village clown, a coward who would shoot down a manacled prisoner.

As the trial progressed, he seemed to grow smaller and smaller. At times, he seemed to be the forgotten man. Always a restless man, he has been confined in a solitary small cell, under constant guard and in constant light, since Nov. 24. Even his sentence did not bring an end. There will be appeal after appeal, while he waits there alone. First was a petition to the trial judge, Joe B. Brown, for a new trial. A news photographer's camera catches a scene at the counsel table during the hearing. The petition was denied.



DMN-JB



DMN-JB

THROUGH THE TRIPLE UNDERPASS, in and out of Dallas, traffic flows just as it did before. Men and women going to and from work, delivery trucks, business and professional people, shoppers, tourists. But there is a difference. The visitor says, "Where did it happen?" His host replies, "Here . . . and here . . . and here . . ." And in a lonely cell overlooking this scene of destiny, the assassin's assassin sits and waits.

VERY EARLY in the morning of November 23, 1963, a group of men from St. Bernard's Catholic Church came to mark the site with a large white floral cross. Soon the lawn was strewn with flowers. There were elaborate floral displays side by side with handfuls of garden flowers tied with old ribbon — tributes of rich and poor, old and young. Then as now, the average citizen of Dallas felt a deep sense of personal tragedy.



AT ANY HOUR of day or night, visitors move reverently about the plaza, gaze up at the sixth floor window where the shots were fired, or out into the Dallas street where a great man met . . . Destiny.



DESTINY IN DALLAS

THIS STORY IN PICTURES is compiled from the record of Dallas' darkest days by one of her native sons who was swept into the mainstream of this multiple tragedy when his services were retained by attorneys for the defense of Jack Ruby during preparation and trial — R. B. Denson, Private Investigator. DESTINY IN DALLAS is in no sense a defense document, and contains no confidential material.

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